

# SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

30th Year — No. 9

March 9, 1998

## What's Inside

NEWS—Pages 1 - 4



Campus Caravan comes to Conestoga  
see page 3

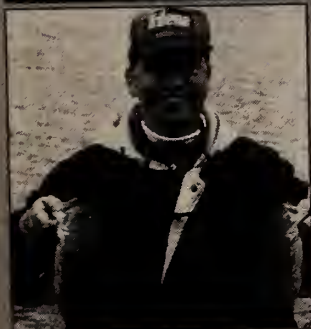
COMMENTARY  
Page 5

COLLEGE LIFE  
Pages 6, 7, 10

Reaping the benefits of becoming an alumni  
see page 10

FEATURES  
Pages 8 - 9

SPORTS  
Pages 14, 15, 16



Profile on fisherman Steve Chiasson of Cambridge.  
see page 16.

CHECK OUT HEY!



ACME's CD release party  
see page 11.

## Stricter rules for recipients of financial aid

*Students must pass 60 per cent of a full courseload or OSAP eligibility will be lost for a full year, says Carol Walsh, manager of financial services.*

By Richard Berta

Conestoga College will begin enforcing a new provincial government policy to make the continued OSAP eligibility contingent on a student's grades, effective September 1998.

The new policy requires a full-time student to pass at least 60 per cent of a full courseload to be eligible for OSAP, according to Carol Walsh, manager of financial services at the registrar's office.

Students who pass less than 60 per cent for two successive terms will have their eligibility revoked for a minimum of 12 months. Conestoga College registrar Fred Harris said a student must successfully complete a full year of post-secondary education at his or her own expense before applying for OSAP assistance again.

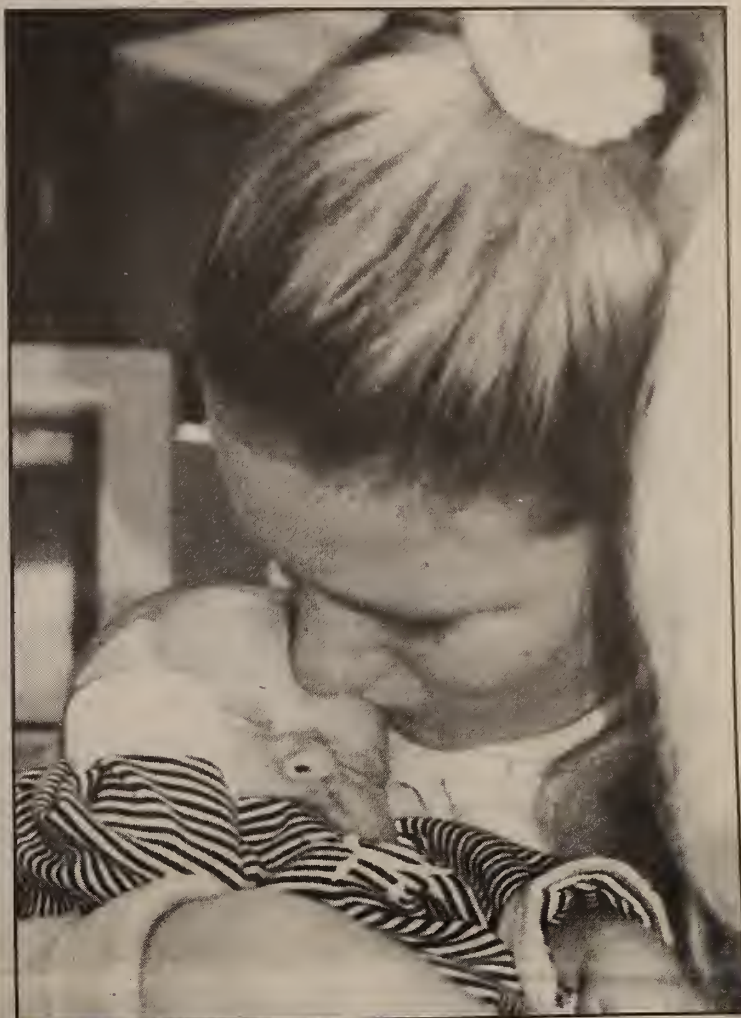
Students who have a permanent

disability must pass 40 per cent of a full courseload to retain OSAP eligibility. Students with a temporary disability may or may not be exempted from these requirements during their period of disability, at the college's discretion.

Walsh said she was uncertain how many students in the college would have their OSAP suspended as a result of this change. But 430 students failed a term during the 1996-1997 academic year and thus could be expected to be affected by the new policy.

The college reports grades to the Ministry at the end of the academic year - May, for two-term per academic year programs and August for three-semester-a year programs, Harris said.

More information will be made available to OSAP recipients in April, Harris said.



### Future grad?

Vicky Lichty, the DSA's receptionist who is on maternity leave, brought her newborn son, CJ, into the DSA office while she tied up some loose ends.  
(Photo by Erica Ayliffe)

## DSA agrees to throw member in jail

Proceeds from the event to be donated to a YWCA women's shelter

By Erica Ayliffe

The Doon Student Association has agreed to throw one of its executive members in jail for one hour to raise money for a Kitchener YWCA women's shelter.

Around 70 other business and political leaders in the area have signed up to be assigned a phony charge to support Mary's Place.

Waterloo Region police chief, Larry Gravell, will be reading the charges at Conestoga Mall May 8 and 9 and the people involved have to raise money to free themselves from confinement.

"Everybody who has agreed to participate will be charged with something," said Madeleine Poynter, vice-president of the Kitchener YWCA and a social services faculty member at Conestoga. "Then they must raise a certain amount of money in order to escape from jail."

The people and businesses involved can raise the money however they want. It will result in a donation to the YWCA.

DSA president Chris Kroeker said he isn't sure how the organization will be raising the money and isn't sure of the donation

amount.

In fact, by the time the Jail-a-Thon takes place there will be a new executive running the DSA, so Kroeker doesn't know who will be jailed.

The event is part of a much larger three-year YWCA fundraising initiative called the Freedom Fund which started two years ago, said Poynter, who is also the co-ordinator of the applied counselling continuing education program at the college.

The Freedom Fund began with a goal of raising \$840,000, which matches the YWCA's address at 84 Fredrick St., Kitchener. Mary's Place is also located in this building.

So far the group has raised \$500,000 and hopes to raise between \$75,000 and \$100,000 during the Jail-a-Thon.

Part of the money raised, said Poynter, will go to paying the YWCA's deficit. The rest will be invested with the interest going to the repair costs of the building, which needs between \$50,000 to \$60,000 in repairs a year. Some money will also go to the 53-bed shelter, which is one of the YWCA's major programs.

Poynter said of the shelter, "It's

really a last stop for a number of women."

It costs the shelter \$45 a day per woman. That includes three meals a day and either a private or semi-private room.

"It's usually full to the point where we have women sleeping on the couch in the TV lounge and on the couches in the board room and the waiting room," said Poynter. "It's usually at over capacity."

Poynter said the shelter houses women who are escaping violent situations, women with mental problems, women who have been evicted from their homes and a number of young women between the ages of 16 and 20 who have left their parental home for various reasons.

The shelter was named after Mary Kaufman, who was an early pioneer of the YWCA in Kitchener.

Kroeker said the DSA decided to get involved to support the community. He also said donating to the YWCA will introduce the DSA to the community and maybe gain sponsorships for the organization or the school.

Both the mayors of Kitchener and, Waterloo are participating,

along with fire chiefs from both cities, Lawrence Bingeman of Bingeman's Park and Jim Brickman of Brick Brewing.

Poynter said there is no symbolism behind the event being a Jail-a-thon. She said the organization thought it would be a fun way to raise money.

Poynter became involved with the YWCA two years ago. She said one of the main reasons she was interested was because of the challenges in funding Mary's Place was facing and the challenging situations the residents face.

The Jail-a-thon is also being co-sponsored by Sims Clements Eastman, a law firm in Kitchener.

## Conestoga gets a million

Klaus Woerner, president and CEO of Automation Tooling Systems Inc. (ATS), was to announce a donation of \$1,000,000 to Conestoga College on Feb. 26. Details will be in the March 16 issue of SPOKE.



# Conestoga offers fast-track course

By Rita Fatila

Conestoga's Waterloo campus is offering a new program to help adults prepare for the Ontario high school equivalency certificate test.

In an information session on the general education development program Feb. 19, Violet Boutilier, a Waterloo campus administrator and academic coach, said the program helps people to achieve their GED certificate, but will help them achieve a post-secondary education too.



Violet Boutilier, administrator and academic coach for the GED/Literary Centre on Waterloo campus.

(Photo by Rita Fatila)

"It's very flexible and works well for people wanting to get into college," she said.

To be eligible for the Fast Track program, a person must be 19 years old or older, an Ontario resident and must be functioning at a Grade 10 level. They must not have a high school diploma and must have been out of secondary school for at least one year.

Students in the program are evaluated in five areas: writing skills, social studies, science, literature and

the arts and mathematics. Boutilier said the individual's program will depend on their strengths and weaknesses in these five areas.

"We'll customize it to what people want," she said. "If they just want math, then they'll just do math."

Students will work in the Waterloo campus' StarLab, which offers Star 2010 courseware. Boutilier gave a brief demonstration of the interactive courseware, which asks students questions as they appear on the screen, during the information session.

The \$500 course is approximately 60 hours long. Students can also have private instruction in areas where they have trouble and can write shorter practice versions of the official GED tests.

"That's not to say that everyone needs preparation," said Sharon Kalbfleisch, dean of academic assessment and special projects. "But then there are those people who are cocky and walk right in there and forget how to do fractions."

For those who need GED preparation, but can't spend \$500, the Waterloo County board of education offers a slightly different GED preparation course for \$64.

"It's not computer based," said Mary Adamson, the board's supervisor of education and training and adult and continuing education. This program gives students general information about the GED tests and, like Conestoga's program, gives students the opportunity to write practice tests. The practice tests are scored and students are given a counselling session to discuss the results. The entire course takes about nine hours.

# Protestors rally against possible attack on Iraq

By Richard Berta

Approximately 70 demonstrators rallied at Kitchener City Hall's Civic Square on Feb. 21. The demonstrators were protesting Canadian involvement in a potential American-led military strike against Iraq.

The rally was organized by the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group and led by Abdul-Rehman Khan, a fourth-year math student at the University of Waterloo. The protesters assembled at Civic Square between noon and 1 p.m. before marching to Kitchener MP Karen Redman's office.

Khan reminded the demonstrators that the protest was intended to be peaceful and urged them to refrain from arguing with hecklers.

"We are protesting the civilian tragedy in Iraq, and we are protesting Canada's - a peace-keeping nation's actions - in an unsanctioned war," he said in an interview.

Khan denounced the United States' willingness to punish the Iraqi people for the misdeeds of



A passer-by looks at the protest signs used during the anti-war rally at Kitchener City Hall.

(Photo by Richard Berta)

their leader, Saddam Hussein.

"It's like me asking someone here, what are you hiding in your pocket?" he said, referring to the weapons inspections in Iraq. "And if that person doesn't show me what he's hiding, then I kill all of the bystanders, because that one person didn't want to show me what he was hiding in his pocket."

Khan said he protested against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and against Hussein's use of force

against his own people, but he added, "As soon as another power exceeds the level of force used by the aggressor, then that power becomes the main aggressor."

The WPIRG also has plans to march on Waterloo MP Andrew Telegdi's office Feb. 25 at noon and could protest at the United States Consulate in Toronto Feb. 28, as long as the threat of a military strike in the Middle East remains.

# Ontario residents finally offered GED

## Other provinces offered high school equivalency test for decades

By Rita Fatila

Until 1996, Ontario residents couldn't take general education development tests in their own province, even though the rest of

North America had been using GED for decades.

In 1996, Ontario became the last English-speaking province to allow the high school equivalency certificate program.

The GED tests originated in the American military as a way to determine whether soldiers without a high school diploma had knowledge from their years of training and experience that would be equivalent to a diploma.

Canadian GED tests appeared in Nova Scotia in 1969. By 1981, eight provinces and two territories were administering GED tests. Ontario residents who wished to take the test sometimes went to great lengths to find a place where they could, said Jim Barlow, vice-principal of adult and continuing education at Conestoga.

"They'd go to Buffalo or Detroit," he said at a Feb. 19 GED information session at the Doon campus. "Or they flew out to New Brunswick."

Why all this trouble for a certificate? "It provides them with a key to a door," said Paul Raymond, the director of the ministry of education and training's independent learning centre. Besides allowing a person to access post-secondary education and higher-paying jobs, the GED also measures knowledge that isn't necessarily school-taught.

"It's not what you know about the amoeba," said Raymond. "It's how well you can think and analyse."

The majority of people who take the GED are usually women, immigrants and between the ages of 25-35.

"These people didn't drop out," said Barlow. "They just joined a larger classroom."

Students who have used life as their



Paul Raymond, director of independent learning centre.

(Photo by Rita Fatila)

larger classroom are thoroughly tested by the GED series of writing, social studies, literature and the arts, science and mathematics tests. The tests are revised annually and are standardized with North American high school seniors, 70 per cent of whom pass the test.

"It's not a walk in the park," said Barlow. "When my staff has discipline problems I make them write the GED."

The cost to write the GED is a non-refundable \$50. Raymond said to beware of any organization who says it costs more.

"It really bothers us when people call us up and say, 'I'd like to take the GED but I can't afford the \$500,'" he said.

In the short time the GED has been in Ontario, six to eight GED test sites have sprung up with one in Kingston and one in Timmins planned for September.

Raymond said the Independent Learning Centre will send a GED supervisor and marker to administer tests to groups of 15 people or more who wish to take the test.

# Simultaneous Chess Tournament

Challenge faculty member Stelian George-Cosh, as he plays 20 students a once

**Tues. March 10**  
**11 am - 1 pm**  
**Main café.**

\$1 entry fee per game  
proceeds to SME





## Campus Caravan:

# Unique marketing event in Sanctuary

By Erica Ayliffe

Campus Caravan came barreling through the Sanctuary Feb. 17 with video games and give-aways to attract numerous students.

The marketing event was put on by Campus Canada magazine, and according to David Henman, the organizer of the caravan, it's a way to promote the magazine through advertising attractions.

"Campus Caravan saved our (magazine's) butt," said Henman. "Nobody makes money on subscriptions. Nobody makes money on news stand sales. The real money is in advertising."

The magazine, aimed at college and university students, developed the event marketing idea because



David Henman is the organizer of Campus Caravan.

(Photo by Erica Ayliffe)

of the shrinking interest in print advertising, said Henman.

Advertisers are more likely to promote their products through broadcast, he said, so the caravan

is a way to attract advertising dollars.

The magazine's main sponsors are Sony Play Station, Ford, Clairol and Esso.

What probably attracts most students to the caravan are the portable Sony video games.

Another bonus are free hair care products and other samples.

Henman has been traveling to post-secondary schools across Canada for four years now with Campus Caravan.

"I know the country like it's a small town," he said.

Although he admits he still can't find his way around Vancouver to save his life because of the lack of road signs.

When the idea began, Henman was carting his equipment around in a Honda Civic. The Civic gave way to a van, and now Henman drives a big moving truck.

The magazine has a circulation of 130,000 and is mostly delivered to on-campus distributors who then pass it on to students.

All the articles in the publication are written by students, and in the fall Campus Canada is redesigning the magazine "with an eye to making it more relevant to students," said Henman.

The publication will be hiring three student editors, one each



Katie Henhoeffter and DSA promotion assistants, Bryan Bambrick and Jenn Hussery, help give away free samples at Campus Caravan Feb. 17.

(Photo by Erica Ayliffe)

from central, eastern and western Canada. Each editor, who must be attending a Canadian post-secondary school, will be paid and will decide what goes in the magazine.

"We scratch our heads about what interests students," said Henman of the redesign. "We're often wrong."

The February edition of the magazine featured articles on women's hockey, Internet relationships and reading week. Other sections included sports, movie, CD and book reviews, travel and fashion.

Out of 41 pages, 19 had full-page

advertisements.

Henman said he does 40 shows a year and it takes him three to four months to get the advertisers on board and arrange his itinerary with the schools.

He said no other magazine he knows of markets its product this way.

The turnout for the event at Conestoga was slow, said Henman, because the Sanctuary isn't in an area with a lot of moving traffic.

On a slow day, Henman said he will usually get around a 100 students and on a good day between 500 and 1000.



Students are given the opportunity to test their skills on Sony PlayStation during Campus Caravan in the Sanctuary on Feb. 17.

(Photo by Jamie Yates)

### ELECTION NOTICE

ONE PERSON IS TO BE ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE CONESTOGA COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF GOVERNORS FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TWO CATEGORIES:

ELIGIBILITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

#### STUDENT

OPEN TO ALL FULL TIME AND PART TIME STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION (A GROUP OF RELATED COURSES LEADING TO A DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE OR OTHER DOCUMENT AWARDED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS).

TERM OF OFFICE: SEPTEMBER 1, 1998 - AUGUST 31, 1999.

#### SUPPORT STAFF

OPEN TO ALL FULL TIME AND PART TIME PERSONS EMPLOYED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AS A MEMBER OF THE OFFICE, CLERICAL, TECHNICAL, HEALTH CARE, MAINTENANCE, BUILDING, SERVICE, SHIPPING, TRANSPORTATION, CAFETERIA OR NURSERY STAFF.

TERM OF OFFICE: SEPTEMBER 1, 1998 - AUGUST 31, 2001.

The terms of reference for these elected internal members are the same as those for externally appointed members of the Board of Governors. Nomination forms will be posted on February 19, 1998. Nomination forms will also be available in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board (Kevin Mullan).

Closing date for nominations: MARCH 12, 1998

Lists of nominees to be posted on campus bulletin boards on March 23, 1998.

ELECTION DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1998

## Stratford campus Luncheon honors employers' input

By Richard Berta

An employer recognition luncheon was held at Conestoga's Stratford campus Feb. 19.

The event was the first of its kind organized by the school of access and preparatory programs and services, which helps prepare students for employment or a post-secondary education.

"We are the ramp to post-secondary education or employment," Andrea Leis, program coordinator, said.

Forty-two employers received awards of recognition for their contributions to the program.

The employers had either provided employment, allowed job shadowing or organized mock interviews for students in the program, Leis said.

"Most of our participants are

on social assistance, and their case workers bring their case to us," Leis said.

The school tries to equip students with interview and other skills that may help them find employment.

She said the school, as a result, has programs such as on-the-job training and employment and training readiness which are centred on Stratford campus but can be relocated throughout Perth and Huron Counties based on need.

"For instance, our services can be re-located from Stratford to Wingham, if the need there is the greatest," Leis said. "We're not confined to the campus."

The school has six full-time faculty members.

There are over forty youth working this year as a result of the program.



# Province announces changes to OSAP

by Victoria Long

Four major changes to the Ontario Student Assistance Program were announced by Education Minister Dave Johnson on Feb. 13.

First, post-secondary institutions will be required to provide students and prospective students with information on the school and its programs which Johnson said prospective students can use as a guide when considering where to invest their money. Specifically, institutions must report program graduation rates, placement rates and student loan default rates as provided by the ministry.

Only Ontario colleges of applied arts and technology, including Conestoga College, have a standardized system for collecting graduate employment data, said Brian Wolfe, manager of the policy unit of the student support branch of the ministry. Universities, private post-secondary institutions and colleges will meet with ministry representatives during the spring to work out details of how the new surveying will be done, Wolfe said.

These changes mean our bureaucratic costs are going to rise dramatically, said Laura Marsden, president of York University, on the Studio Two television program Feb. 23.

The second change requires institutions whose students have a high default rate in the ministry's

1997 report to share the cost of defaults for their high-default programs.

The ministry's definition of a high-default program for 1998-1999 will be 38.5 per cent, 15 percentage points above the provincial average of 23.5 per cent in 1997. In the following year, high default will be 33.5 per cent.

"Sharing the cost" means the institution, rather than the government, will reimburse lenders for bad debts.

*Richard Jackson,  
senior policy advisor,  
student support branch,  
Ministry of Education*

Richard Jackson, senior policy advisor in the program area of the student support branch, said, "sharing the cost" means the institution, rather than the government, will reimburse lenders for bad debts over the limit of 38.5 per cent this year and 33.5 next year. Dollar amounts will be assigned proportional to the number of students over the threshold, Wolfe said.

The third change replaces the current loan-forgiveness program,

which erases debts over \$3,500 per term at graduation, by a direct payment from the provincial government to the lending institution which the student used.

For single students, the maximum grant will be \$2,350 for a "typical" two-term academic year. For students with children, the grant may be as high as \$10,000.

Total cost for the grant program is expected to be \$306 million next year and 92,000 students are expected to benefit.

The final major change announced is an increase in the amount of contribution expected from a student's family if the student has been out of school for less than five years.

Labelled, "greater parental responsibility," the new policy requires a family of four, whatever the makeup of that family, with a gross income of \$40,000 or more to pay some portion of the student's education costs before that student is eligible for OSAP. Previously, the threshold for parental contributions was a family income of \$55,000, Wolfe said.

Provision is made for the student to appeal on the basis of a family breakdown if her or his family refuses to assist with education costs, Wolfe said.

The expected contribution is calculated on a sliding scale based on family size and after-tax income, Jackson said.

Wolfe said the contribution is determined by family income and

is allotted equally to the educational costs of all children, regardless of how many are in post-secondary programs.

This means a two-parent family with two children will be required to allot an amount which depends on the gross family income to the post-secondary education costs of one, or both, of the children. However, a one-parent family will have to allot the same amount, if the gross family income is the same, to the education costs of one, two, or all three children.

Under current regulations, no contribution is expected from a family with a gross income of \$40,000. Next year, this family will contribute \$100, according to the press release. However, the

formula used to determine the expected contribution takes other factors into account, Wolfe said, so a two-parent family and a one-parent family may be assessed differently.

The province will now have the option of withholding income tax refunds from people who default on student loans if the amendments under consideration to the federal financial administration and income tax acts are passed.

A minor change announced is that students filing an OSAP application on paper will be charged \$10 for the cost of processing the application. There will be no charge for applications filed through the OSAP website at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca>.

## Low default rate in Kitchener

By Victoria Long

In the Kitchener area, no post-secondary institutions fall into the provincial government's student loan high-default category.

The average rate for defaults province wide was 23.5 per cent in 1997. The government hopes the initiatives announced Feb. 13 will lower the average to 10 per cent in five years.

The 1997 report shows no public colleges or universities were over the threshold of 38.5 per cent of former students in default, Jackson said. Private vocational schools vary greatly in default rates from a low of 9.1 per cent to a high of 71.9 per cent.

The average default rate for universities is 13.9 per cent, for colleges 27.5, and for private vocational schools 38.5.

Conestoga College has the lowest default rate of any college in the province, financial aid officer Carol Walsh said.

In the government's 1996 report, Conestoga showed a rate of 15.9 per cent and in the 1997 figures, it had increased to 19.5 per cent. Walsh said Conestoga's goal is to lower that figure to the government's set goal of 10 per cent by 2003 by offering more programs in the co-op format and by increasing efforts to ensure students understand their obligations when they borrow for educational purposes.

The 1997 figures show Conestoga having three programs with high default rates. These are the print journalism, with 80 per cent, food and beverage management with 58.3 per cent, and graphic design with 57.1 per cent.

"Conestoga will definitely be looking at these programs," Walsh said.

However, these high rates only reflect defaults by a total of 19 students who were enrolled at Conestoga during the 1994-1995 academic year, she continued.

The University of Waterloo's default rate is the lowest in the province, at 7.4 per cent, UW media relations officer John Morris said.

Morris implied having a job decreases the likelihood of an individual defaulting on a student loan.

"University graduates have the lowest unemployment rates despite the Council of Ontario," he said.

"Universities' research findings that Ontario universities have the lowest level of government funding in Canada." Over the last five years, universities have lost 25 per cent of operating grants as a result of funding cuts, he said.

As to the cost of implementing a survey of graduate employment, Morris said the university doesn't even have a ballpark figure at present. "It will cost something, but we welcome comparisons."

The new requirements do not pose a problem for Wilfrid Laurier University either. Michael Strickland, media relations officer for WLU, said that institution has about a 10 per cent default rate which is fourth lowest in the province.

Richard Jackson who works in the program area of the ministry's student support branch explained why the 1997 default figures apply to students who finished school in 1994 or 1995. A student is considered to have defaulted on a loan when he or she is 90 days behind in repayments.

Since repayment does not start until six months after an individual finishes study, and since federal government interest relief is currently available for 18 months, no one can be in default until more than two years after leaving school.

The default rate for Ontario's postsecondary institutions has only been calculated for 1996 and 1997, so no long-term trends can be detected.

## SWAP TALK

### Student Work Abroad Programme Experience the world!

Tues. March 17

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

The Sanctuary

presented by **TRAVEL CUTS**

Britain Netherlands  
Australia France  
Ireland New Zealand  
United States Jamaica  
Finland Japan  
Germany South Africa

Are you graduating this year?

You should sign up for the **Resume Referral Service!**  
It's free!

Also, take advantage of a **free Resume Critique!**

Search for work on the Web!

Check out **Campus Worklink.**

To sign on:

Usercode "**ConesA**" and password "**Conestjobs**"

For more information:

**The Student Employment Office**

**Room 2B04**





## Technology

## Net creates zombies

By Jeannette Altwegg

It's rather ironic that something that is supposed to symbolize the greatness of technology through human contact over gigantic distances is now being labeled a home-wrecker.

Yet, according to a recent Globe and Mail article, a poll of 3,522 Canadians found that about half of those interviewed agreed the Internet can indeed be hazardous to family life.

The question, asked by the Ekos Associates Inc., was whether people agreed or disagreed that using the Internet and other computer activities at home had a negative impact on the quality of their family life.

One of the points mentioned in the Globe and Mail article was that nearly one in two people polled said they knew someone who spent so much time at home on the computer that it interfered with their family life.

One father who had been interviewed even went so far as to say that his son's computer playing resulted in the boy's low grades he was getting in school.

So what then does this tell us about human relationships in the 90s? Are we creating a generation of impersonal, dehumanized zombies who don't know how to relate to one another? Or are we overreacting just a little?

I'm reminded of a SeaQuest DSV episode I once watched. Somehow the crew of the SeaQuest ended up on a futuristic version of earth where the entire population, except for two people, had been wiped out by mechanical creations which were manipulated by individuals via computers.

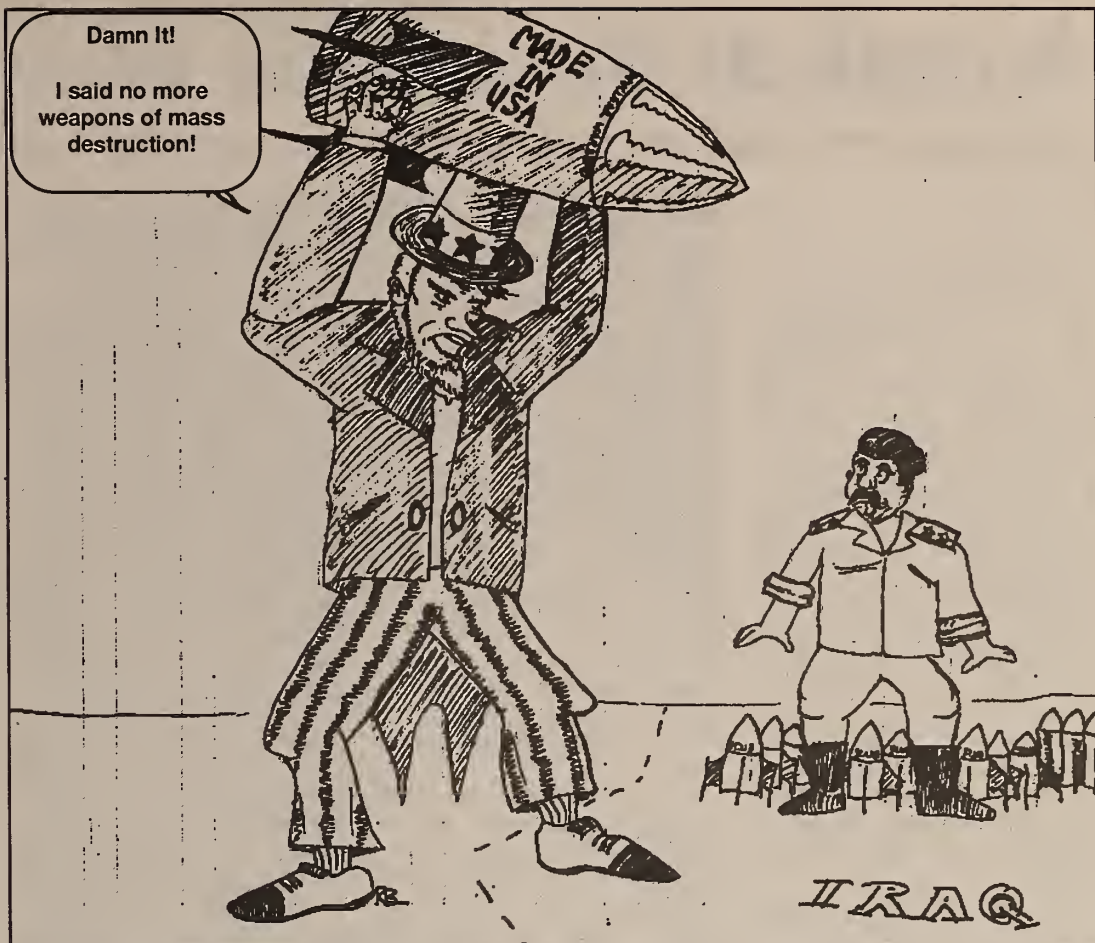
This may sound a little too post-apocalyptic for some, but it makes one wonder about the quality of material that's available on the Internet.

One of the more commendable arguments in support of the Internet is that it's the best way to get to information quickly from places which otherwise could take weeks or even months to receive.

However, there have been studies done to prove that children especially, are very much influenced by what they see on television.

Adults may be able to distinguish right from wrong, but, young children can't.

Taking this a step further, who is to say that the computer, which has also been proven to be addictive for some, doesn't obstruct a child in the way it learns to interact with other human beings? Especially when this so-called interaction takes on the version of games which can be played over the Internet without ever seeing another person.



## Letter to the editor

## The secret to success

Having graduated from Conestoga College's journalism program over 16 months ago, I thought it might be a good idea to follow the tradition of writing a letter to the editor and telling everyone currently in the program what they will face upon graduation.

I never really believed that jobs were scarce in journalism. When my instructors told me I would have to beat the bushes to find a reporter's job, I scoffed. I thought finding a job would be easy; after all, I was a Conestoga college graduate with at least some skill in writing — who wouldn't want me?

Well, after college, I immediately went to the Cambridge Reporter for my two month internship. While at Spoke, my average workload was something like two stories a week and two pictures per week.

My first day at the Reporter, I wrote nine stories and took five pictures. Now, that may not seem like too much work, but remember, these stories had to be professional quality and with three sources each.

On average, I found myself calling 25 to 30 people per day, writing 2,000 to 4,000 words per day and taking at least one picture. For those of you who think Spoke

is tough, just try writing for a daily. The workload is incredible and the hours are exhausting.

Now, don't get me wrong — working for a daily is about the most exciting thing you can do. I rode with the police, the firefighters, trucked around in an ambulance and tried out for Wheel of Fortune. How often does the average guy get to do that?

Pretty soon my time at the Reporter was over and it was time to find a real job in journalism. Armed with two whole months of experience, some clippings and a letter of recommendation in my pocket, I set out to conquer the world of print journalism.

To paraphrase an instructor of mine, "It takes about 10 minutes for the glamor of journalism to wear off."

I spent 16 months trying to find a job in journalism. I tried dailies, weeklies, student publications, papers in different provinces, the TV Guide, everywhere. Every time I would encounter the same thing — dozens of other journalists with a lot more experience applying for the same job as me. Time after time I left rejected.

I seriously considered leaving the field to try something else; maybe writing advertisements for beer commercials or something. Eventually, I got a job with the

Woolwich Observer, a community-based weekly in Elmira. Amazingly, I've found it just as exciting as working on a daily. Sure, it's more laid-back, but the stories are more in-depth, and you get to know the people and the problems more intimately.

And the work-load is still the same. Ugh.

So, for all of you still in the journalism program, and those of you writing for Spoke, here is my advice: do not expect to beat off employment opportunities once you step out of college. Finding a job in journalism is hard. The jobs out there are few and far between and the competition is fierce. I should know — I beat out a fellow Conestoga College graduate to get this job.

Remember though — there are jobs out there. Not many editors care what college or university you received your diploma from — they care what your clippings look like and if you can write. So that is the key to the "mystery" of finding a job after leaving college — learn how to write while you're in college.

Imagine, something as simple as that.

Patrick Moore, reporter,  
The Woolwich Observer

## Letter to the editor

## Night students not vandals, director says

In Erica Ayliffe's article "Photocopier busted again", which appeared in the February 23 edition of Spoke, she states that "the machine was damaged both times during night school." Did Erica mean to say that the photocopier was damaged after 4:00 p.m. when the DSA office's closed?

If she meant to say this, she should have because her article implies that a Continuing Education, "night school" student was responsible for the damage.

Is Erica aware that many full-time day students also take courses at night? Is she aware that most continuing education students do not frequent the area where the vandalism took place?

I find it unacceptable to incriminate CE students in this affair, solely on the basis of association with evening classes.

Erica should stick to the facts in this case and limit the innuendo!

It is not responsible journalism and it serves no purpose except to create the impression that "night school" students are nothing more than a bunch of vandals.

Clearly, this is not the case and I would expect the Spoke to set the record straight in the next edition!

J. David Stewart  
Director,  
Continuing Education  
Conestoga College

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

Editor: Rita Fatila; News editor: Erica Ayliffe; College life editor: Barb Ateljevic;

Features editor: Jamie Yates; Entertainment editor: Natalie Schneider; Sports editor: Matt Harris;

Photo editors: Greg Bisch and Rachel Pearce; Production manager: Corina Hill; Advertising manager: Dan Meagher;

Circulation manager: Becky Little; Faculty supervisor: Jim Hagarty; Faculty adviser: Andrew Jankowski;

SPOKE's address is 299 Doon Valley Dr., Room 4B15, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4.

Phone: 748-5366 Fax: 748-5971 E-mail: spoke@conestogac.on.ca

SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by the Doon Student Association (DSA). The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the DSA. Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect or MS Word file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).



# A look at the inside of a women's prison •

*Speakers give students first-hand account of what it is like working in a correctional facility*

By Corina Hill

Ever wonder what life would be like if you lived in prison?

The students of Conestoga's law and security administration found this out Feb. 18, as part of a seminar presented by two correction officers at the Grand Valley Prison for Women.

Kathleen Scott and Steven Popovski have been working at the Kitchener prison since it opened its doors nearly two years ago. Located at 1575 Homer Watson Blvd., the prison created an outcry from people living near the prison who feared having federally-sentenced women living in their backyard.

But Scott and Popovski said Kitchener was chosen not to create fear in the people surrounding the prison, but to provide a safe haven for federally-sentenced women.

"They did a lot of research and what they found was that Kitchener had a lot of programs for women," said Popovski.

Various women's groups and shelters in the area made Kitchener a prime location for the largest women's prison in Canada.

He also added that 75 to 85 per cent of inmates are from Kitchener, Guelph and Hamilton, thus making rehabilitation easier.

Popovski said to look at the prison grounds, it looks more like a housing complex than a federal institution. The prison has nine units that look similar to a house, complete with a kitchen, living area and private bedrooms. Each room has a bed, a desk and a stand for a television. (Televisions are supplied by the inmate.) Also included in the prison is a library where women can borrow books.

"We believe people are sent to prison as punishment, not for punishment," said Scott.

Scott told the students that before the prison was built, woman inmates were all treated as maximum security inmates at a penitentiary in Kingston. In 1989,

a task force suggested that changes be made to women's prisons, allowing for a trickle-down effect for lower profile criminals.

"We're working hard to create a model for women criminals," said Scott. "One hundred years ago, women were housed with men and children."

Unique to Grand Valley is a sweat shop located behind a spiritual centre. The sweat shop is for women only and was designed to give woman a chance to heal. The spiritual centre is a circular building and is painted purple. Throughout the week, ministers from various religions come to work with the inmates and preform mass services in the building.

With 87 per cent of inmates being first time offenders, staff at the correctional facility try to assess the problem behind the crime. "We try to teach the women to value their own situations," said Scott.

"It's better if they learn to work for the money," said Popovski,

adding that inmates in the prison receive \$4 a day.

With the high profile case of Karla Holmolka, many students were interested in her prison term. Students asked the correctional officers of her whereabouts as well as her college education while she is attending prison. "She's not in Ontario," said Scott.

Popovski said Holmolka is paying for her own education. "Women have to pay for their education over the high school level," he said, adding that legally, federal inmates must have a minimum Grade 10 education.

But life isn't all fun and games for women at Grand Valley. Razor wire tops off a chain link fence that surrounds the front of the prison. A white picket fence that surrounds the back of the prison is highly alarmed and is triggered when anyone comes within five feet of it.

"We do have a state-of-the-art security system," said Scott.

After seeing a slide show of the prison, many of the law and security administration students said they were interested in jobs as a corrections officer.

After passing a public service test, said Popovski, potential correction officers are interviewed, put in a practice situation and checked for references.

By completing all the preliminary tests, potential correction officers move onto a staff college where they learn about the field of corrections. "If you fail, you go home," said Scott.

"It teaches you the basics of institutions," said Popovski, adding that starting officers are paid \$29,000 to \$31,000 a year.

Working at federal institutions is difficult work because correction officers are within the general population at all times, said Popovski.

"It's a lot harder to work in the environment we work in," he said.

## Fast forward with new Macs

*Grant buys computers for graphics program*

By Anita Santarossa

Third-year graphic design students find their new Macintosh computers to be a great asset in their pursuit success.

The graphic arts department received a \$130,000 grant from the Special Projects Initiative Fund, sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Training, said Joe Martin, dean of applied arts and academic support.

The \$130,000 went directly into funding for capital equipment to upgrade the department's computers, which took place in Sept. 1997, said Martin in a telephone interview.

Third-year graphic design student, Cindy Hazeleger, said since third year projects are all done on computers, it is nice to have one computer per student.

"With one computer for every third-year student, it gives us a lot more time to work on our projects," said Hazeleger.

Rebecca White, another third-

year graphic design student also commented on the luxury of having her own personalized computer at school. "This system is much better now that students don't have to fight over the same computer anymore."

Third-year graphic design instructor Matthew Miller

Third-year graphic student Agnes Laszcz said she noticed not so much a technical improvement in her work, but a speed improvment.

Laszcz also mentioned that every two people share one of the new color scanners that were invested in as well.

Macintosh computers may seem obsolete to some, but 90 per cent of the graphic design industry continues to use them, said Miller.

"There has been much debate on which is better (IBMs or Macs)," said Miller, "but we train students on Macs so they will be employable."

The graphic arts department prides itself in their 100 per cent employment rate after graduation.

"We have always managed to achieve a high employment rate with or without the new computers," said Miller. "It is just that the new computers will allow students to keep up with the future of graphic design."

"We train students on Macs so they will be employable."

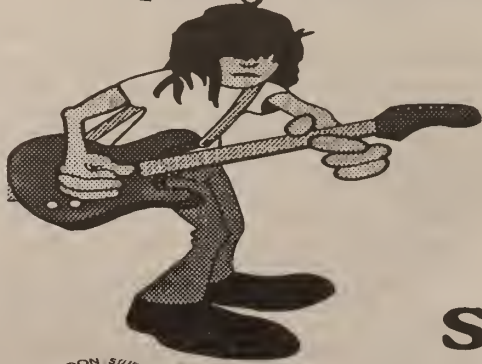
Matthew Miller,  
graphic design instructor

said second- and third-year students used to have to share among 18 computers the department offered.

"We did not have enough computers and they were a lot slower," said Miller.

Though the initial computers worked relatively the same and produced good quality work, the new computers are just producing the work at much faster rates, said Miller.

## Airband Contest



**Tues. March 24  
11 am - 1 pm  
The Sanctuary**

**Sign up at the  
DSA Office**

## International students excel at their studies

By Amanda Fickling

International students at Conestoga College adapt to their programs extremely well, said an international student advisor.

Because the international students are in Canada on a visa that has an expiry, they have to do well in their courses the first time around, said Karen Vanderkruk during an interview. They know that if they don't meet the requirements they will have to stay longer and that will cost them more money, she said.

"The students are dedicated to their studies and they have excellent attendance," said Vanderkruk.

Currently, Conestoga College is educating 19 international students, down from 31 students in September. The majority of students are at the Waterloo campus. Students usually come to Conestoga to get an English credit, said Vanderkruk. A number of students have been accepted into the universities in the area, but need to get an English credit before they are allowed to further their studies at the universities.

"English is only offered at the Waterloo campus," she said.

International students come from all over the world. Conestoga has had students from Japan, Vietnam and Bermuda, said Vanderkruk. Some students are getting an education paid by their parents, while others are sponsored by companies, she said.

"Some companies actually pay for students to further their education," said Vanderkruk.

The students that are at the Doon campus are happy with their education, said Vanderkruk. They get to interact with other students, see a variation of education systems and learn stuff that they wouldn't get to learn in their countries, she said.

"There aren't any complaints; the students seem to be pleased," she said.

The international education department assists students in applying to the college. Vanderkruk also said the department notifies the students if they have been accepted into the program.

"We take care of them from the get go," she said.

The department assists the international students in a number of ways. If a student has to renew his visa, then the department will help with that, said Vanderkruk. If a student needs to get a visitor's visa to travel to the United States, then the department will help out. Students are also given tutors through the department, should they require them.

Vanderkruk said help is offered in both academic and non-academic situations.

Once the international students have completed their studies in Canada they must return to their home, said Vanderkruk. They are allowed to stay and work in Canada for one year if they find work in their field of study no more than 60 days after their graduation.



# Disabled student overcomes obstacles to attend school

## Cambridge man refuses to let nineteen leg operations get in the way of his career

By Donna Fierheller

Using a wheelchair for transportation is not new to a student in Conestoga College's micro-computer software applications program.

John Sutton said the Waterloo campus is all on one level, with push-buttons for doors, so it is easy to navigate if you have to use a wheelchair.

The Cambridge man, who has had 19 leg operations since a car accident in 1978, refuses to let that keep him down. It has, however, necessitated many adjustments in his life.

"He has a better outlook on life now and doesn't feel that it's a lost cause."

Paola Sutton, John's wife

After his 14th operation in 1995, while he was a shipper-receiver at Kinnear Doors in Cambridge, Sutton said he was encouraged to take a Workers' Compensation board pension, but opted for up to three years in vocational rehabilitation instead. His wife Paola (pronounced powla) said during an interview in their home, "John

can't just sit and do nothing. He would go crazy."

Determination and a strong will to succeed led the father of three children to attend Conestoga College to study mechanical engineering technology.

Sutton said after upgrading his skills at Conestoga's Cambridge campus, he was accepted in the course at Doon, completing the first semester of the three-year program before his knee became infected, requiring him to have another operation in March, 1997.

"Because of that, I missed a month of school," he said. "I got too far behind in technical math and applied mechanics, because you can't miss a day let alone a month. They are very in-depth courses."

The Workers' Compensation board would not fund the extra semester he needed to allow him to complete the course, Sutton said, so he had to choose a different program that could be completed within the allotted time frame.

"I loved computers, so since I was going through for Auto-Cad anyway, I decided on a 42-week micro-computer course. This fit the bill," said Sutton.

Since the course was only offered at the Waterloo campus, Sutton said he had to change campus along with his course of study.

Sutton said thanks to instructor Barb Power and Marian Mainland



John Sutton, a computer software applications student at the Waterloo campus, spends many hours on the computer at his home.

(Photo by Donna Fierheller)

in special needs, his last operation in September 1997 didn't slow him down too badly. He said he was off for two weeks, then went back to school just in time to write mid-term exams, although he was

still pretty doped up with medication. "I only got 40 per cent on the Access (programming) exam, but I got 76 per cent overall in the course by the end of term," he says proudly.

"The instructors were really, really good. They had to set up the exam all over again just for me, because everyone else had written the week before. Anything they could do to help, they did."

With his leg straight out on a board, he couldn't get close enough to the computer desk with the wheelchair he was in for three more months. To help him out, Mainland had a desk altered to accommodate his needs. Sutton said, "The desk will stay that way because there is another guy that uses the same set-up, so they put a wheelchair sticker on the desk."

Sutton may need it once again, as a 10 centimetre screw is working its way out of his leg. He says with a grin, "I literally have a screw loose."

His wife Paola said his school work keeps him busy and keeps his mind off the setbacks. He has a better outlook on life now and doesn't feel that it's a lost cause.

It has been a long, bumpy road for Sutton, who is looking forward to graduating in June and working as a software technician or systems analyst. "In the meantime," he says, grinning, "I'm enjoying the course. It's really interesting, and I'm surrounded by other computer geeks."

**TRAVEL - teach English:**  
5 day/40 hr (March 4 - London, June 24 - Guelph) TESOL teacher certification course (or by correspondence). 1,000's of jobs available NOW. FREE information package, toll free: 1-888-270-2941

**Computer Lease Program**  
P200 MMX, 32MB RAM  
2.1GB HDD, 56Kbps Modem, 16X CD-ROM, 14" monitor.  
\$ Down! Only \$13.75/week!!  
**FREE DELIVERY**  
1-800-267-9466

**TIME CONSTRAINTS?**  
Writer's block? Can't find the words or the right research materials you need? We can help!  
**WRITE:** Custom Essay Service, 4 Collier St., Suite 201, Toronto, Canada, M4W 1L7. Call: (416) 960-9042. FAX: (416) 960-0240.

**USED CD Beat OUTLET**  
GOES ON  
2  
Turn Your Used CD's Into Cash or Credit

**KITCHENER**

385 FAIRWAY RD. S  
893-2464

(Canadian Tire plaza)

**WATERLOO**

402 KING ST. N  
884-7376

(beside Harveys)

**CAMBRIDGE**

415 HESPLER RD.  
622-7774

(across from McDonalds)

**GUELPH**

23 WELLINGTON ST. E  
823-5341

(across from Wendys)

K-W, CAMBRIDGE & GUELPH'S LARGEST SELECTION OF USED CD's

**MIKE MANDEL**  
**stand-up mentalist**

Performing live at the  
**DSA Dinner Show**  
Tues. March 24

**TICKETS \$10**  
(INCLUDES LASAGNA DINNER)  
**ON SALE AT THE**  
**DSA OFFICE**





## 1 in 4 victims raped while attending college or university

## Sexual assault services provided at Conestoga

By Rachel Pearce

Inside the door of Conestoga's Student Services office, along the wall immediately to the left, there stands two racks of brochures about all the information one could want about social issues such as alcohol abuse, self-esteem, sexually-transmitted diseases and sexual assault.

Sexual assaults, rapes, are experienced by about one in every three women, according to one of the pamphlets, produced by the college.

What may surprise some, however, is that in about 85 per cent of sexual assaults, the assailant is

known to the victim. This is called date rape or acquaintance rape. The same pamphlet states further that a 1993 study at Carleton University concluded approximately one in every four women are sexually assaulted while attending university or college.

Karen Rittinger, a counsellor at student services, said survivors of sexual assault are welcome to seek help through student services.

"It's voluntary. It's free here, and it's confidential," she said. "Unless you disclose that you are going to harm yourself or someone else. That's different."

"If someone came in crisis, they

could talk to a counsellor," she said. "We would probably refer them to one of the community agencies that deals specifically with sexual assault. If they wanted to speak to a counsellor individually, that would be one of the options open to them."

"But, definitely, we would ask them to speak to somebody at the sexual assault centre. That would be a really good support to them."

Rittinger, who said the K-W Sexual Assault Centre has a 24-hour crisis hotline, said she would recommend them.

"They are really good people to talk to," she said. "Even if you had been assaulted as a child 15 years

ago, and it was coming back to you. There's no time limit on their services."

"There's also the sexual assault treatment centre," she said. "If it (an assault) just happened and the survivor wanted to lay charges, they need to be examined by a doctor."

The stand full of pamphlets located in the student services office contains information on sexual assault including the definition of sexual assault, crisis line numbers and support group numbers, as well as a helpful information booklet containing services the college provides for the prevention of assault.



## Most sexual assaults committed by men, says pamphlet

By Jamie Yates

For many women, sexual assault and rape have created a society for them to fear. Some women fear walking home alone at night, have trouble trusting people, or even dating.

A pamphlet by the Ontario Women's Directorate said statistics show that nearly all sexual assaults are committed by men against women and girls. A small percentage of sexual assault victims are men.

An employee at the K-W Sexual Assault Support Centre, who wished not to be named, said a survey done in

1993 reported one in three girls are sexually assaulted and one in five to seven boys are sexually assaulted.

It said all kinds of women are sexually assaulted and that it doesn't happen to any certain 'type' of woman.

She said about 98 per cent of the victims are young women, many of whom are assaulted before they reach 18 years of age.

Teens and college and university students, she said, are in the greatest risk range for sexual assault.

About 98 per cent of the assaults, she said, are committed by men. She also said of that 98 per cent, 90 per cent could be committed by someone you know and 10 per cent are strangers.

The pamphlet said most people believe that sexual assault happens in dangerous places, such as parking lots, but more than half of all sexual assaults happen in private homes.

The woman at the K-W Sexual Assault Centre said the likelihood of being

assaulted by an acquaintance is high because it is someone you know personally and they can invite you anywhere.

She said 60 per cent of women experience sexual assault more than once and that disabled women are even more prone to become victims of sexual assault.

The pamphlet said people who commit sexual assaults are responsible for the crimes, the victims are not.

What a woman wears, where she goes, what she drinks or who she talks to does not mean she is inviting sexual assault or giving up her right to say no. These myths blame the victim, not the offender.

The K-W Sexual Assault Centre employee said about one per cent of sexual assaults are reported to the police. Other cases could be reported by a friend or relative the victim has told, she added.

If you are sexually assaulted, she said to report to a hospital immediately. This helps ensure your attacker could be brought to justice, she said.

The pamphlet provided several options women have if they have been sexually assaulted. Victims can talk to someone they trust, such as a close friend or relative, or contact a rape crisis centre, a woman's counselling service, a hospital sexual assault care coordinator, a teacher or guidance counsellor, a health worker or their doctor.

For more information, call the K-W Sexual Assault Support Centre's crisis line (519) 741-8633.

## Drug-related sexual assault

By Jamie Yates

*Rohypnol, known as the 'date rape' drug, is often a substance people relate to drug-related sexual assault, but drug-related rape can involve many substances, not just rohypnol.*

An article released Feb. 13 courtesy of Beth Wanlin, manager of public relations for Hoffmann-La Roche Inc., who manufactures rohypnol as well as other prescription medications, said drug-related rape is not related to one particular substance.

A study, presented in February 1998 and conducted by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, said a couple of substances have been labelled 'date-rape drugs', but found almost 20 different substances have been associated with sexual assault.

The study, which tested urine samples of sexual assault victims, found the largest number of incidents involved alcohol and another 40 per cent of incidents involved multiple substances.

Of the 578 samples tested by the American Academy, 208 involved alcohol, 93 involved marijuana and 40 involved cocaine. Another 32 contained GHB (gamma hydroxybutyrate), a nervous system depressant, mixed with alcohol and other drugs. Only five contained Rohypnol (flunitrazepam) and of the five, only one contained rohypnol alone.

The article said Rohypnol, part of a family of drugs known as benzodiazepines, is a prescription medication used in the treatment of anxiety and sleep disorders. Wanlin added, in a telephone interview, that the drug is used in 80 countries around the world, but is not marketed in Canada.

The study was conducted under the request of law enforcement officials to assess how commonly rohypnol is actually used in connection with rape.

The article said Hoffmann-La Roche has taken precautions to prevent the misuse of its prescription drugs. Roche has added a blue dye to their rohypnol tablets to make them easily identifiable and has changed the formulation of the tablet so that it does not dissolve quickly in liquid. Roche as also reduced the number of distributors authorized to carry rohypnol.

When asked why rohypnol is stereotypically known as the 'date-rape drug', Wanlin said that rohypnol has become a catch-all phrase for drug-related sexual assault.

Wanlin said rohypnol is not proven to be the most common drug used in sexual assault and that the study conducted by the American Academy gives insight into this theory.

"Drug-related rape is not a new phenomenon," said Wanlin. She said labelling rohypnol as the 'date-rape drug' gives the impression that there is only one drug to be aware of, but that is not true.

The common way rohypnol is administered to victims is in a beverage.

Wanlin said a person can be drugged anywhere such as in a bar, at home, or at a friend's house, so people should not assume it only usually happens in a strange place.

To help prevent from being drugged, Wanlin said to never leave a drink unattended anywhere, to not take drinks from strangers, to take drinks only from a bartender, to not accept open drinks at a party, and also to look for anyone who seems overly intoxicated because they might be drugged.

In the event you are drugged, Wanlin said, if you are alone, to get help from someone who works in the place you are at or call 911 and then go to an emergency room. If you are with friends, get them to help you and go to an emergency room.

## Community Services sexual assault

**Kitchener-Waterloo Sexual Assault Support Centre**  
24hr. crisis line 741-8633  
TTY/TDD 571-0864

**New Hamburg and Area Interfaith Counselling Centre**  
662-3854

**Waterloo Region Sexual Assault Treatment Centre**  
St. Mary's General Hospital  
749-6994  
Cambridge Memorial Hospital  
749-6994

**Victim Services Program**  
-Cambridge 650-8527

**Guelph/Wellington Women in Crisis (24 hrs)**  
Guelph 836-5710  
Wellington County  
1-800-265-7232

**Victim Support Line**  
1-888-579-2888  
Toronto (416) 314-2447

## Conestoga's Student Services (Doon Campus, 748-5220)

**Counselling Services**  
ext. 330/329

**Health Services**  
ext. 254

**Safety Office**  
ext. 470

**Security Office**  
ext. 357

**Student Support Groups**  
ext. 337/360

**Student Services**  
providing support, information and counselling

**Doon Campus Room 2B02**  
748-5220 ext. 360  
**Guelph Campus**  
824-9390 ext. 148  
**Waterloo Campus**  
885-0300 ext. 224



# Ten behavioral traits of potential abusers

By Dee Bettencourt

The following are 10 personality traits which could indicate whether you might be a potential abuser. The abuse may be verbal, physical, mental, sexual and/or economic (you need to control all the finances).

If you recognize yourself as having an unhealthy predisposition for abuse, you are not alone, says Jane Ryan, Anselma House administrative assistant.

Ryan, 42, has over six years of experience with battered women through her job with the non-profit home and says, "Men can take responsibility to get help, if they just admit to a problem."

Be honest and evaluate yourself to see if you display some or all of

the following attitudes and actions that abusive men are prone to, as identified by Anselma House:

1. You were abused as a child and/or watched your mother being hit.

2. It's tempting to manipulate through fear (i.e. you occasionally drive too fast, deliberately scaring your passenger).

3. Insults, put-downs, and slanderous name-calling are well within your vocabulary.

4. You remove your partner's support system by isolating her from friends and family.

5. Jealousy is no stranger to you and you may make accusations regarding cheating.

6. Even you may wonder about your Jekyll and Hyde personality. You are 'even-tempered' one

moment, then rage explosively, unpredictably, often without provocation.



7. Somehow, your shortcomings become your partner's fault as you project your behavior onto her. She's the reason you fail tests, lose games, are broke, etc...

8. Your overindulgence of drugs or alcohol cannot help but endanger any relationship you

form. You may already have problems with the law.

9. It is not easy for you to admit you have hurt someone and accept that responsibility. It is easier for you to pretend the damage never occurred.

10. You will do whatever you must to win your partner, then drive her away, only to repent and start over again with a honeymoon courtship and expressions of great remorse. This is a vicious cycle that forms the pattern of many abusive relationships.

Ryan warns that it is not only heterosexual relationships in which abuse occurs.

"Don't think that everything is always fine with lesbians or homosexuals; they assume roles as well and may be abusive or

abused," says Ryan.

Although quarrelling is natural, Ryan says, "No abuse is ever OK. I won't say that because of the provincial cuts, guys are angrier and hitting out more - that is not an acceptable excuse. Nor is getting drunk."

Ryan advises it is up to both sexes to accept responsibility for their actions or inactions.

She says the next step for men, after recognizing and admitting they have a problem, is to reach out to one of the many counselling agencies for help, such as Interfaith or K-W Counselling, to work on freeing themselves of negative, abusive behavior.

"Freedom," says Ryan, "It is what everyone is basically looking for."

## Opinion

### Coeds in a potentially dangerous situation

By Rachel Pearce

During my first two semesters at Conestoga College, I lived across Homer Watson Boulevard in our one and only residence, Roadkill (pardon me, Rodeway) Suites.

My parents often asked me what it was like there, and I knew they were curious to see for themselves. But I never invited them. Liberal as they may be, having grown up in the days of free love, they would have been appalled.

Beer bottles and garbage were often scattered through the halls. Once, on my way upstairs, I nearly tripped over a drunken 18-year-old girl who was apparently having a party all by herself on the elevator floor.

She was friendly and outgoing, smiling and asking me how my evening had been.

At first I thought it was funny. A quaint college-days story I could share with my friends some day. Then, as I looked at her, I saw a pathetic young thing, a sitting-duck for any drunken young buck who was lacking brains and compassion who might want to have "some fun" with her.

Incapacitated as she obviously was, I doubt she would have even noticed. In residence, young guys and girls live together amicably. Everyone is a friend. People leave their doors open (despite numerous warnings by

hotel staff), and anyone can enter the rooms at any time. I have seen these doors left open in the dead of the night, and it gave me chills.

Last year, there were (unsubstantiated) rumours that a girl was raped in her room, and I wouldn't be surprised if it actually happened.

Sure, there are surveillance cameras in all of the common areas and the hallways. Sure, guests are expected to sign in at the front desk. But what if a girl was raped by someone who lived there, who had no need to sign in at the desk, and who, perhaps, had been in her room before? The cameras would certainly tape him walking in the hallway, but who would think there was anything wrong, considering he lived there?

Let's face it. There's a hell of a lot of drinking and fraternizing going on in Conestoga's co-ed dorm. It can make college life a truly wonderful experience for some; a time they will remember forever.

But, just look at the statistics. One in three women is sexually assaulted.

Most are college age. One in four women are assaulted while attending college or university. Many rapes occur in situations where a woman is alone with a man whom she knows. Often, alcohol is involved.

Girls, please lock your doors tonight.

## Some safety tips to help students avoid becoming victims of assault

By Rachel Pearce

Provided by Conestoga College and available in the student services office at Doon campus in a pamphlet called, Your Guide to Personal Safety and Security, the following 'common sense safety tips' can help students avoid being victimized.

**At all times:**

—Project an image of calmness and confidence. Walk with determination and purpose and be alert to your surroundings. Don't hesitate to draw attention to yourself if you are afraid.

—Use caution in conversations with strangers. Don't tell them

where you live, where you are going or if you are going to be out late.

—Let someone know where you are going if you go out, and about how long you will be.

—If you go out drinking, work out ahead of time how you will be getting home to avoid being stuck.

**At the Doon campus:**

—Avoid isolated areas of the school. If you are alone, let security know where you are so they can check on you periodically.

—If you are going to be at school after dark, move your car to a close parking lot. You can park in

any lot after 4 p.m.

**While walking:**

—Try not to walk alone at night. Make arrangements to meet a friend or stick to well-lit areas where there are other people.

—Walk on the opposite side of the street from parked cars and avoid dark entrances and paths.

—Do not stop to give strangers directions.

—If you suspect someone is following you, head directly to the nearest home or business that looks occupied, and call for help.

—Wear flat shoes and avoid overburdening yourself with bags and parcels.

## Airband Contest



**Tues. March 24  
11 am - 1 pm  
The Sanctuary**

**Sign up at the  
DSA Office**

## Class Rep. Meeting Schedule

**Tues. March 17**

**or**

**Thurs. March 19**

**3:30 pm, The Other Room  
in The Sanctuary**





# College grads can maintain relationship through alumni

*More promotion of association needed, says manager*

By Barbara Ateljevic

Conestoga's alumni association wants students to know they are all considered part of the association once they graduate and students can take advantage of the many services they provide.

"We want to inform students that once they graduate, their relationship with the college isn't ended; it just takes a different status," said Mary Wright, manager of alumni, student employment and co-op education. "They're automatically members of the alumni association."

Students aren't too aware of the alumni association's presence on campus and aren't sure what they offer, said Wright.

"Students aren't as aware of (the alumni association) because we haven't done enough promotion on campus to make them aware," said Wright. "I don't think it's a focus for them when they're a current student because they're more focused on completing their studies and graduating."

Some ways the alumni association tries to make itself known around campus is through articles

and ads in Spoke and having alumni speakers come in and talk to classes, Wright said. The annual Valentine's Day carnation drive is also done through the association.

"It's something we have to put more focus on," she said.

This year, the alumni association hired a recreation and leisure student as a field placement.

"Once (students) graduate, their relationship with the college isn't ended; it just takes a different status."

*Mary Wright,  
manager of alumni,  
job employment and  
co-op education*

"He's looking at a plan in terms of how could we strengthen our position on campus and become more visible."

The alumni association has a board of directors that includes

four standing committees that look at a variety of different things.

"Their focus is to come up with a variety of different things that we want to do to encourage alumni to be actively involved and participate."

Wright said it's important for alumni to stay in touch because they are supporting the college, such as offering job opportunities to current students, which she sees happening now.

"Grads that had a good experience here and know about the programs often recruit from us," she said.

"Alumni who are more actively involved sort of feel they benefited from their education. This is their opportunity to give back to the college."

Wright said graduates are now supervising co-op work terms, providing work term opportunities and providing full time employment opportunities.

"The alumni association sees themselves as dedicated to...the college's interests and to promote and help in the success of the college," said Wright. "That's sort of the whole focus."



Mary Wright, manager of alumni services, student employment and co-op education, wants to provide a higher profile for the alumni association on campus. (Photo by Barbara Ateljevic)

## Alumni membership has its benefits, says manager

By Barbara Ateljevic

There are several benefits to being a member of the alumni association.

Two programs offered through the alumni association is the Ross Dixon financial service and a group home and auto insurance program. Mary Wright, manager of alumni, student employment and co-op education, said the financial service offers a variety of services for Conestoga's graduates. This includes everything from assistance in finding a mortgage to RSP plans and tax preparation.

The home and auto insurance, which was launched in September 1997, has seen almost 100 members sign up within a two- or three-month time frame, said Wright. Members have been saving between \$100 to \$200 through this insurance plan.

"Those two membership benefit types of plans are what we're working on and trying to expand upon in the next year," she said.

The alumni association sends an alumni publication, Connections, to graduate's homes twice a year. Wright said it is the primary communication vehicle with students. The association also offers group discount tickets to places such as Canada's Wonderland and the African Lion Safari.

In addition, the association tries to offer a variety of events, such as the recent skating party held at the recreation centre, Wright said. About 25 people attended the event.

"That's positive from our perspective because it was the first time. It's something we hope to build upon," she said.

Students should take advantage of the job search assistance available at the student employment

office. As well as job postings on bulletin boards and outside the job centre in Room 2B04, the office also offers a job binder access, where all jobs received are categorized and placed. These are available inside the office for students to look through.

The resume critique service and the resume referral service is also provided to students and alumni. To have your resume critiqued, drop it off at the office and staff will review it within 48 hours. They will give suggestions on how to improve or change your resume to improve your chances of job success.

The student employment office also offers a 24-hour job hotline where students can find out about job opportunities. The number is 748-5220, ext. 562. Wright said the line is menu-driven and gives a short description of postings received. For further details about these jobs, personal assistance is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 748-5220, ext. 756. Have your student number on hand.

The job fair is also a regular service provided by the student employment and alumni office. The recent fair, free to alumni and students, had several graduates representing their companies and recruiting for additional positions, said Wright.

The alumni association is currently trying to get a computer and printer for students.

"It will be strictly for students to sign on and use for printing of resumes," said Wright.

She said job searches can be done over the Internet. Students can book however much time they need and they should bring their own paper. The computer and printer should be in place by April or May, Wright said.

## Games Week March 9 - 12

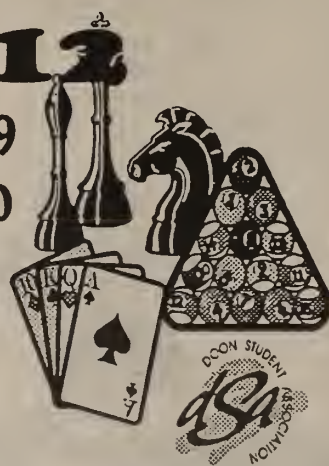
Euchre Tournament - March 9

Chess Tournament - March 10

Pool Tournament - March 11

Foosball Tourn. - March 12

Sign up at the DSA Office



## PROBLEM GAMBLING WORKSHOP

- Thursday
- March 19th. from 3:30-5:30 pm in Room 1B21
- Facilitator: Larry Ellis
- Please see Elaine or Jeanette in Student Services, Room 2B02 to sign up prior to March 19th.





## Groovin' with Groovy Religion

by Natalie Schneider

**T**he nostalgia of playing in a band, the rush of performing live and the creative outlet that bands offer can wear off quickly for some people. For those that continue to have a passion for what they do success surely follows them closely behind.

For over a decade the Toronto-based band Groovy Religion, formed in 1982, has been building a forum for their music. Since that time they have released *Thin Gypsy Thief*, their debut LP, in 1986 and then *Tom - A Rock Opera* released in 1995. But it doesn't stop there *Canadabis*, their newest release, emerged this February.

The 11 track disc is a perfect sound choice for those who may not be familiar with Groovy Religion. Groovin' songs like Wes Stern to the mellower Ballad of the Girl gives the album an edge. You're not going to find bored repetition on *Canadabis*.

The first track on *Canadabis*, Dimebag (Owed to the Stooges) will be the first single circulated to radio and video. The decision to initially release this song was made by their production company, Handsome Boy. Frontman William New is more than happy with the choice.

"I think it's one of the best sounding songs on the record. I like their game plan in that Owed to the Stooges will be the first single and Honey O will be the second single. They're probably stylistically the furthest two songs apart from each other, so I'm tickled by that," said New in a phone interview from Toronto.

Despite many shuffles within the band over the years, current band members New, Steve Mahabir, guitars, John Borra, bass, harp and organ, and John Lalley, drums, have been keeping busy with their new release.

Prior to their Toronto release party on Feb. 14, they flew to Canada's west side on Feb. 11 to celebrate in Vancouver at the Cannabis Cafe. The opportunity to hold a release party at Cannabis Cafe seemed the fitting place for them to introduce Vancouver to *Canadabis*.

"Jeff, who heads up the label Handsome Boy, had seen the cafe in the course of his travels and thought at that time that this would be a good place for a band to have a listening party. When our record became entitled *Canadabis* it just seemed to ducktail nicely," said New.

"I don't know much about the Cannabis Cafe, but they're bravely making marijuana available to their customers and allowing smoking on the premises. Although things are a little bit looser in Vancouver, it's still against the law," said New. "I admire them because I think people have to make this type of stand in order to see things change. I for one am tired of being jailed for smoking marijuana. I don't think that anyone should be put in jail for smoking a flower."

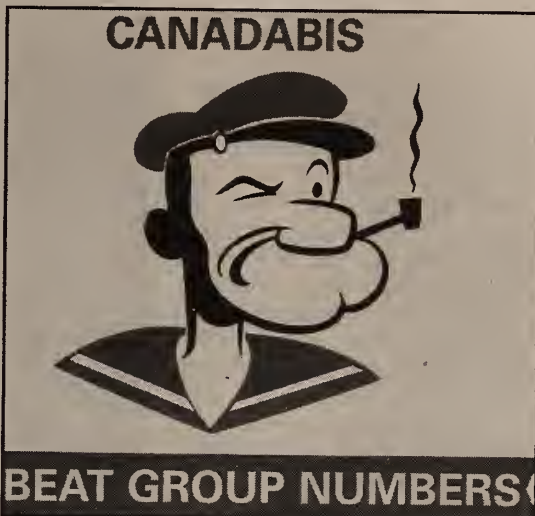
The first 50 people to attend the release party were given grab bags full of cookies, hemp papers, a CD and other munchies. Plus, when opening the CD one can find a smokable hemp product as well as a chance to win a bong.

However, even though New believes strongly in the freedom to smoke marijuana, he said that the release of *Canadabis* is in no way trying to promote the usage of marijuana.

"These days marijuana is quite a strong drug with hydroponic growing and cloning plants. I wouldn't advocate to use any drug but having said that, I don't think you should be a criminal should you chose one drug over another. It seems absurd to me that if one wants to drink alcohol it's somewhat accepted by society, providing you don't drive," said New.

"So perhaps I have invested interest in seeing things change or perhaps I'm biased, but I'd rather think that had I not been in prison for smoking marijuana that I'd recognize it as an unjust law," he said.

New, who mainly writes the lyrics and melody lines, said he finds the band works well together and the fact



that they all write songs in different ways gives them an advantage. The musical input changes often. Either the entire band collaborates together for a song or it shifts to two people within the band or individuals.

While some of the songs on *Canadabis* are about Canada and cannabis, ideas behind the songs also stem from a more personal level, said New.

"Honey O is basically an account of a date I went on when I was 13. I took a girl to a local movie theatre to see Easy Rider. Jimmy Tear is about a friend of mine that passed away a couple of years ago. There are a couple of songs that deal with incidents in Canadian history and others that deal superficially with marijuana including Honey O, so there are a bit of crossovers there. It's certainly not a concept album, the motifs for the songs are all over the place," said New.

One of the most rewarding experiences for many bands is playing to an audience. This is an opportunity to see how receptive the public is towards them, but things can easily get very ugly especially if you're just starting off.

It's important to have the right perspective especially when the crowd isn't warming up to you or there is no one there, said New.

"You need to have the right attitude, especially if you're an opening band and it's not your show. You have to be philosophical about it. I have played Toronto shows where we're low down on the bill and people are getting there late. So they're there for the end of our set if at all.

"So you start a set with a half dozen people in the room and I think in some ways that's the mark of a band. I mean anybody can get up to speed with 300 kids jumping around, going nuts, but can you still turn it on when you're in front of a half dozen disinterested spectators. I think you're selling yourself short if you can't play a rock set under any circumstances," said New.

Despite some of the challenges that face a band, ultimately the most fulfilling aspect of the business is the immediacy of getting a song to a listening audience, said New.

"If you're writing a short story it may take a long time to find print, but if you write a song you can write it this week and sing it in front of an audience the next. So I like the immediacy," said New.

To capture a glimpse of Groovy Religion you can catch them at the Warehouse with Rusty in Toronto on March 7. Although Groovy Religion isn't starting an official tour, the near future will hopefully have them touring throughout Canada.

"The touring will hopefully start sometime in April and May, when the weather gets better. Things are still up in the air with a cross Canada tour. I've got my fingers crossed that we'll at least get to Vancouver because we've just been there to soften things up and talk to the media," said New.



### CD release party

A force to be reckoned with:

## Guelph-based band ACME launches new disc

photo and story by Lisa Roberts

Any doubts about the local music scene were successfully laid to rest on Feb. 21 during the official launch of Guelph band ACME's second effort, *Jet Engine*.

With special guests The Kramdens and Dumb As Sheep, ACME played a tight set to a packed crowd on the upper level of Van Gogh's Ear, Wyndham Street North, in Guelph.

According to singer Matt Grainger, it was the vocalist for The Kramdens who unknowingly came up with the title for the CD.

"We recorded the track The Zero Ward last year," remembered Grainger during a pre-show interview. "I played it for Craig (vocalist for The Kramdens) and he said, 'Oh, here comes ACME just like a jet engine.'"

After conferring with the band, completed by guitarist Brad Dawson, bassist Nathan Martin and drummer Eric Martin, Grainger decided to use the expression as a working title.

"We didn't know what we were putting out at the time, so we started calling every song Jet Engine," said Grainger. "When we recorded the songs, we wound up not using the title for any song after all."

The new CD contains demos of recordings the band planned to eventually release.

"What good are demos if

nobody hears them?" asked Grainger. "It's a better record than the last one because it was a total accident the way it was done. We recorded 16 or 17 songs, but only nine made the CD. We originally wanted five for an EP but it just kept getting bigger."

Their reputation as a force to be reckoned with seems to be increasing in size as well. When Hamilton-based band The Headstones played Guelph last summer, ACME was hand picked to open the show.

They had already opened for The Headstones a few years ago when they were in the middle of promoting their first recording.

As a token of thanks, Grainger was presented with a custom-made microphone stand that singer Hugh Dillon used onstage.

ACME showed off both new and old material during their set, including the powerful Orange Amazing, A Wonderful Thang and a pseudo-psychedelic tune called Supermagician from *Jet Engine*.

They also included songs from their first recording, *Fighting Amongst Ourselves*, including the encore favorite, Papa.

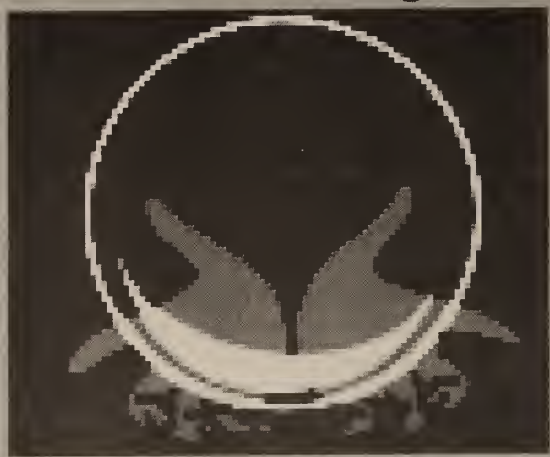
*Jet Engine* is now available in most music stores, and the band plan on setting up some local performances to support the release.



ACME vocalist Matt Grainger kicks out the jams during the band's CD release party on Feb. 21 at Van Gogh's Ear in Guelph.



## Psychic foretells futures at Conestoga



by Amy Sonnenberg

Psychic Dan Valkos saw into the futures of Conestoga college students in the Sanctuary Feb. 19.

Scores of students lined up for brief consultations in which each person could ask Valkos three questions regarding his or her future.

Kiran Sharma, a first-year journalism student, was impressed with Valkos' projections. One of Valkos' predictions for Sharma was that she would be famous and one day be on TV.

"I'm very happy with what he had to say," she said. "My future looks bright."

Christine Losier, a first-year general business student, found Valkos' answers encouraging.

Losier explained that Valkos knew details about her brother that she hadn't told him.

Valkos, who describes his technique as telling the probability of the future, said he has an 85 per cent accuracy rate. "You are in control of your own destiny," he said. "I could tell you that you are going to become pregnant in the next six months, but all you have

to do is not have sex for the next six months for it not to happen."

Valkos has been involved with psychic phenomena for almost 30 years. In that time, he has written such books as *The Psychic World* and *How You Can be a Part of It* and *The Psychic World of Your Dreams*. He is planning on releasing two more books later this year or early next year.

He has also lectured at 21 colleges, Conestoga being one of them. Past seminars have included *The Psychic World* and *Reincarnation — Who Were You?* Valkos will be teaching the two-day seminar *The Advanced Psychic World* starting March 25. Consult Conestoga's Continuing Education program for details.

Staying close to Conestoga would be a good idea, according to Valkos. "Kitchener-Waterloo will be booming in the next couple of years," he said.

However, if you agree with other psychics who believe the world will end before we ever get to see that happen, Valkos disagrees. Rest assured, he said, "the world is not going to end in the year 2000."

## The Kramdens perform their *semi-stylish* show in Guelph

by Lisa Roberts

"I hate it when people asked us to describe ourselves," said Craig Norris, vocalist and lyricist for Guelph band The Kramdens. "Well, I'm five-foot-eight and a half..."

This is typical of the deadpan humor the five-member group has developed over their years together to cope with the stress of the music business. Bass player Will Key, guitarists Iain Grant and Steve Knox, and drummer Rob Leader complete The Kramdens, who recently opened for ACME during their performance at Van Gogh's Ear, Wyndham St. N. in Guelph on Feb. 21.

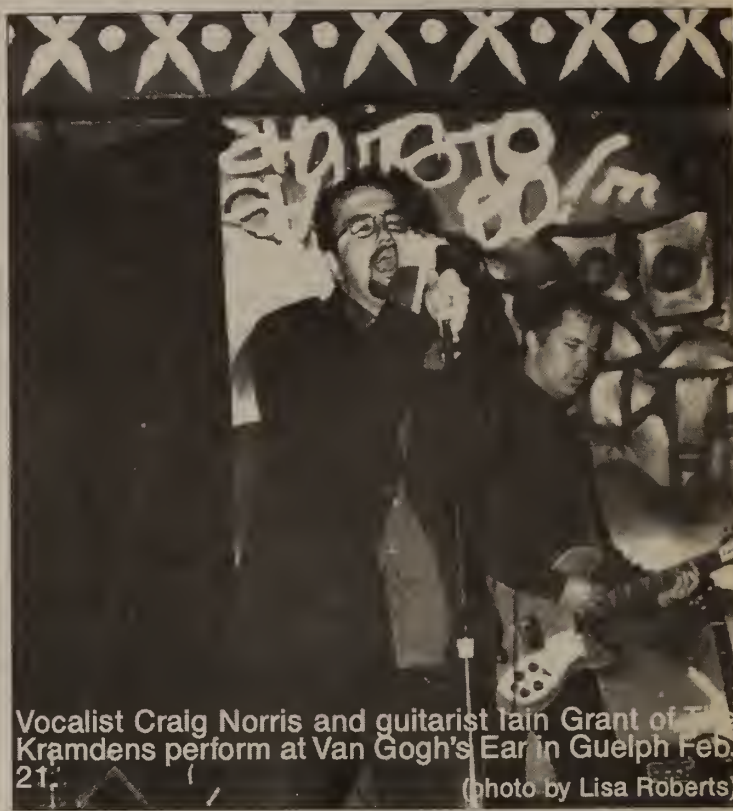
The band has been together for more than eight years, but only released their debut CD, *semi-stylish*, last summer. Their hard work and debut effort has resulted in a number of southern Ontario gigs, including the launch of *semi-stylish* at Mrs. Robinson's in Kitchener eight months ago.

"The songs were honest recreations of what happened in my life," explained Norris. "I usually write about stuff that interests me, stuff that catches my eye."

The Kramdens are aware of the heavy marketing of alternative music and sympathize with other musicians expected to embody an image.

"Craig handles the lyrics, but there's the pressure to conform to the alternative music scene we're lumped into," said Grant. "It's like we're expected to demonstrate worldly awareness. Anyone can do it convincingly like (REM vocalist) Michael Stipe. It's a shame people aren't judged legitimately."

Songs like *Martyr's Shrine*, a



Vocalist Craig Norris and guitarist Iain Grant of The Kramdens perform at Van Gogh's Ear in Guelph Feb. 21. (photo by Lisa Roberts)

reflection of an excursion Norris went on with his Grade 8 class, reveals his lyrical openness. "What makes daily occurrences more beautiful than our own grandiose vision?" asked Norris. "You gain more success if you're true to yourself."

The song writing process takes more effort with time, as the band reveals.

"When you're in your first band you can write songs in 20 minutes," explained Norris. "Then you become more seasoned. You become harder on yourself."

Grant, who comes up with the music writing, feels that successful bands have members with lesser positions when it comes to song writing. "If you have five members in a band contributing in the same way and have the same level of input, it won't survive," he said.

Comparisons have been drawn between The Kramdens and artists like Counting Crows and The Wallflowers, but the band take it all in stride.

"Everyone has to have a measur-

ing stick," says Norris, "but there could be worse things like Michael Bolton."

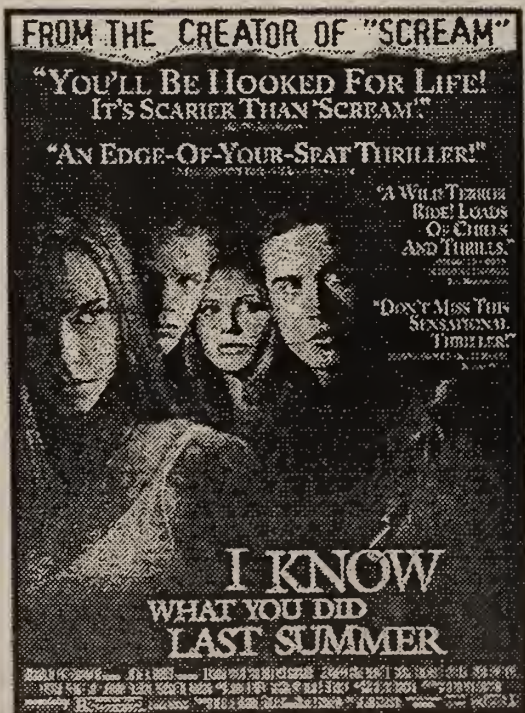
The Kramdens opened for ACME on Feb. 21 as a favor to their fellow musicians. During the launch of *semi-stylish*, ACME opened for The Kramdens at Mrs. Robinson's.

"They played (the CD launch party) because they wanted to," said Norris. "At the time we both felt like we were on the outside edge of the Guelph community. Both of us are in a situation now where we don't want to hook our stars to anyone."

The group will begin laying down tracks on March 20 for the new CD, which will be released sometime this year, and they say they will be experimenting with newer ideas.

"It's taken a few years to turn this corner, but we are the absolute busiest band in Guelph, other than King Cobb Steelie," said Norris. "We don't make people cringe with our music; we're a pop band with an edge. People like us."

## Twoonie Tuesday



TUESDAY  
MARCH

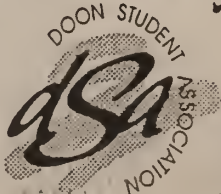
17

8:00 pm

The Sanctuary

Tickets \$2

on sale at the DSA Office





## Movie review

# Sphere fails to make an impact

directed by Barry Levinson

by Lisa Roberts

It brags of an all-star cast. It explores the possibility of intelligent life from other planets. It takes place in present-day America. Unfortunately, *Sphere* falls flat on its face.

Despite the team production effort from Michael Crichton (*Jurassic Park*) and Barry Levinson (*Sleepers*), who also directed the flick, *Sphere* fails to deliver the excitement various promotional advertisements promised.

Dustin Hoffman (*Wag the Dog*) stars as psychologist Dr. Norman Goodman, who is brought out to the middle of the Pacific Ocean to investigate an apparent plane crash. The real reason he is being summoned is because an alien aircraft has been discovered at the bottom of the ocean covered in coral reefs.

Years earlier, Goodman wrote a government document outlining life from outer space that may have quietly invaded earth. Since he's the author of this document, Goodman is therefore roped into the exploration of the craft.

He's joined by a team of professionals: Samuel L. Jackson (*Jackie Brown*) who plays mathematician Harry Adams, Sharon Stone (*Casino*) fills the role of biologist Beth Halpern, who is also a former flame of Goodman's, and Liev Schreiber (*Scream 2*) portrays scientist Ted Fielding.

Together, the team must descend to the bottom of the ocean to examine the ship for any signs of life and to give a general report. Of course, as a mandate for thriller movies, adventure and suspense ensues.

How does the title of the movie fit into the whole plot? Once the crew begins investigating the

abandoned aircraft, they find a few interesting things; a half-eaten package of almonds frozen in the hands of a human pilot and an American manufacturing seal. Wow. This must be an American aircraft. But wait, there's a huge golden sphere in the main chamber. The sphere has no doors, nor does it reflect any of the team's members.

Upon discovery of the sphere, the crew start being invaded by, of all things, a giant squid, numerous jellyfish and hundreds of podlike eggs that attempt to smother the investigators. On top of that, an alien being named Jerry attempts to communicate with the crew, and finds a friend in Goodman.

Jerry the alien has been living a solitary existence for almost 200 years at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean and is able to talk freely with a psychiatrist. Go figure.

Curiosity almost kills this litter of cats as one by one the members attempt to enter the sphere itself. However, the action doesn't stop there. Lots of mayhem takes place inside the crew's holdings as well. Poisonous sea snakes! Power shortages! Nightmares for sure, but could they be invoked by the crew members themselves? Maybe that's because once they penetrated the sphere, their collective subconsciousness was released, and set free to wreak havoc on each other.

Here's the moral of the story. The sphere was sent upon earth for intelligent humans to use this new power to make their dreams come true, literally. It's arguable, nonetheless, to say that man is simply too primitive to use that power right now. Could we just maybe forget about the whole thing?

Due to the lukewarm premise and the lame plot developments, I already did.

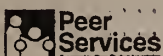


ARE YOUR MARKS LIKE A SEESAW -  
SOMETIMES UP, SOMETIMES DOWN?

WHY NOT END THE ACADEMIC YEAR  
ON THE UP!

CONSIDER HIRING A TUTOR!

COME TO STUDENT SERVICES (2B02) TO  
BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT!



## MOVIE REVIEW

# KUNDUN

THE STORY OF THE FOURTEENTH DALAI LAMA

DIRECTED BY MARTIN SCORSESE

by Natalie Schneider

Emotionally and visually breathtaking, it is a journey to a place so far removed from the comforts of our land.

Last week's opening of *Kundun*, the story of the fourteenth Dalai Lama, moves away from the conventional concepts of Hollywood film making, which is fitting for such an extraordinary story.

Instead of fast-paced action and endless violence, *Kundun* concentrates on emotion and imagery, which makes the tale even more moving.

*Kundun* chronicles one of today's most inspiring figures, the fourteenth Dalai Lama. The movie begins in 1937, in Tibet, when Kundun is discovered.

An innocent child, only two years old at the time, Kundun was not aware that he would become an enigmatic spiritual leader for Tibet and the rest of the world.

The film is an enchanting true story of a young boy reincarnated as the fourteenth Dalai Lama. As he grows into a man he is faced to deal with one of the most unsettled times in his land.

In 1950 chairman Mao's Chinese communist army assaulted Tibet. This started a long hard journey for Tibet. The Dalai Lama was forced to face this challenge alone.

The United States and the United Nations turned their backs on

him and Tibet. He remained dedicated to the Buddhist principle of non-violence and remained strong for his country.

In the end the Dalai Lama's advisors assisted him to flee the country. Up until then he was determined not to leave his people. This was not an act of cowardice. If he stayed he would have surely been killed.

His death would have brought an end to all Tibetans for they would have lost everything that surrounded their lives and their beloved spiritual leader. To this day the Dalai Lama still lives in exile in India.

One of the most remarkable aspects of the film, besides the captivating images, is the fact that many of the cast members are directly related to the characters they portray. Plus, some have family ties with the actual Dalai Lama.

The character of the adult Dalai Lama was profoundly portrayed by Tenzin Thuthob Tsarong. He is a relative of the Dalai Lama's extended family.

Tencho Gyalpo filled the role of the Dalai Lama's mother. This hit really close to home since she was portraying her grandmother.

As well Lobsang Samten who acted as the guardian to the Dalai Lama, is an ordained monk and was educated by the Dalai Lama.

This truly takes the film to a higher level. It makes the film real

because the cast is telling their story not anyone else's. They portray their culture, their lives and their homeland in its truest form, from the heart.

In his career, director Martin Scorsese has obtained a long list of classic film making such as *Raging Bull* and *The Last Temptation of Christ*.

His eye for imagery and his passion for his job really shows through in *Kundun*. He brought forth a group of Tibetans to bring their compelling story to life.

*Kundun* gives the general public a very important gift - knowledge. Although *Kundun* is only a small glimpse into the long history of the Dalai Lama and Tibet, it still portrays a strong image of the Tibetan people and their long enduring struggle.

To not know just a little bit of their history and culture is a tragedy in itself.



## CORRECTION

In last week's issue, it was stated that Club Isis, 276 King St. W. in Kitchener, was to open on Feb. 27. It has moved to March 7 instead.

# Now Hiring

Do you want to get involved in  
Student Life and make a difference!

Leadership positions are  
available with the DSA Executive.

Term May 1, 1998 - April 30, 1999

Applications are available

March 25 at the DSA Office.

Deadline Friday, March 20, 1998.

\*Please note these positions are not full time paid positions.  
Executives are rewarded by honourarium.





# Golf show mixes old with new

Once the winner dons the green jacket at Augusta, golf thirst grows

By Dan Meagher and  
Matt Harris

Let's see, you are a golf fanatic, would love to be on the PGA tour, but they just won't give you your playing card. Well, there may just be a tour for you.

Among the many stops at the 1998 Golf Show at Bingeman Park in Kitchener was the Bogey Tour, which offers 17 tour packages to your average golfer in various locations in Ontario.

Ranging from \$500 to \$1,500, the packages provide golfers with a schedule of 10 events at various locations in a given region. It is a phenomenon that is really starting to catch on, the tour promoters say.

"Our memberships increased 500 per cent last year, and we're hoping for another 250 per cent increase this year," said Devon Bestard, vice-president of Bogey Tour.

Bestard noted that most of their memberships roll in once March and April come around. "Once they play the Masters our phone starts to go nuts."

The company's head of marketing and promotions, Craig Loughry, said, "everyone starts to get the itch at this time of year."

Loughry added that they are the largest amateur club in Canada and hope to become the nation's largest club.

The show also featured a look at the history of golf with a display from the Golf Historical Society of Canada. Society members Ross Ditner and Paul Sorley showed off a variety of primitive golf tools, including stitched balls and, of course, wooden-shafted clubs.

It was a sharp contrast to the new advances in golf technology that were present at the show.

Representatives of Ping were unveiling their new custom titanium driver, while the hottest selling item was a new set of Calloway clubs.

"Not much has changed in drivers, but there have been some vast evolutions in irons," said Andy, of Nevada Bob's golf store.

Nevada Bob's was just one of several retailers at the show who were preying on the golfer's "itch" that Loughry described.

Also present at the show was a representative from Mizuno. Mike Taylor, from Brampton, said this was the second year that Mizuno had attended the Kitchener show.

"Toronto is our big show," he said. "That's where we show most

of our new lines."

New from Mizuno this season is the T-Zoid Mighty Big, a second-generation driver based on the T-3 from last year.

"It has a larger head, bigger sweet spot and its easier to hit straight," Taylor said. "With a longer shaft, you get a longer swing arc which translates into more club head speed. And with more speed, you get more distance."

The show, now in its fourth year, has been a success, according to Dave Smallwood of the Galt Country Club, who helped organize the event. "Because it's a smaller show, it's a nice one to come to," he said.

Smallwood was referring to its size in comparison to other area shows, such as the upcoming Toronto event, where Loughry said some 35,000 people attend.

As for the Kitchener stop, Smallwood said it gives the avid golf fan a chance to whet his or her appetite for the game in the midst of the gloomy months.

"It gets the old people out of the malls," Smallwood joked when asked what the main function of the show was.

On a more serious note, Smallwood said he would like to see the show branch out to include more warm weather travel options in the future. "We need to get

into the travel end of things a bit, because I think that's just about all that we haven't covered."

One of those areas that was covered was the promotion of local golf courses. Several area clubs had representatives on hand to answer questions about their courses.

However, the show appeared to appeal to die-hard golf fans as opposed to the casual golfer in most



Chances are you'll never see Tiger Woods (above right) playing on The Bogey Tour.  
(Internet photo)

## The BOGEY TOUR

respects. The clubs on display were mostly higher-end brands and new, expensive technologies.

Smallwood noted that the manufacturers who attended the show were there to support the area courses and not really to sell their products. "They sell their products to people like me and not the end users," he explained. He also said it was unusual for manufacturers to attend golf shows for that reason.

Others, such as the representatives from The Bogey Tour, travel from location to location hoping to expand their clientele. "Canada has the largest per capita number of golfers in the world," Bestard said. Loughry added that there are one million golfers in Ontario alone.

For that reason, they feel it is advantageous to promote their packages in large centres in the province with hopes

of moving throughout the country in the near future.

"They have tours like this in the U.S.," Loughry said. "But there has never really been anything like it in Canada, so it's really taken off."

Bestard believes that some golfers like to move around and play a variety of courses as opposed to being a member at one specific location.

"It's also very simple for them to have a schedule handed to them and not have to worry about booking tee-off times or anything like that," he said.

Bestard and Loughry were quick to point out that their promotion is there for everyone, and not just scratch golfers, because very few golfers can actually break 90 on the score card.

So for those of you who need to satisfy your golf needs, fear not, because the warm weather is on its way. And whether you want to spend \$600 on a driver, or simply pretend you're on the PGA Tour, you will have that choice.



## Condors split weekend games to lock up third seed for playoffs

By Dan Meagher

The Condors men's hockey team got mixed results in their weekend journey north to Cambrian and Boreal from Feb. 20-22.

The tough first-place squad from Cambrian drubbed Conestoga 6-2 to solidify their hold on the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association title.

The game was a far cry from Cambrian's visit to the Rec Centre early in February with the

Condors taking only one minor penalty. It was feared that hostilities may have held over from the previous game when both teams combined for well over 300 penalty minutes.

Cambrian outshot Conestoga 37-28 in the match that saw Condor head coach Kevin Hergott use Phillip Popp between the pipes in place of Darryl Whyte, who didn't dress for the games.

The defending national champion Golden Shields are ranked second in the country and

look strong heading into the playoffs, with a 12-3-1 record after the win over the Condors.

As for Conestoga's other opponent, the lowly Boreal Viperes, the fortunes are not so promising. The Condors doused them 8-1 in their own building, dropping them to 4-12-1. The loss leaves them floundering in fifth place and out of playoff contention.

Conestoga's 10-6 record leaves them in third place for the playoffs, meaning they will likely face

the second-place Seneca Scouts, who beat the Condors 7-5 at the Rec Centre on Feb. 11.

On individual terms, Condor forward Darryl Sinclair wrapped up the league scoring title with a seven-point weekend. That left him with 47 on the season, nine ahead of Mike Senior from Cambrian, with only one game remaining on the schedule.

Another Condor, Matt Goodburn looks like he will stay in the top ten in league scoring. He currently sits eighth in the

OCAA with 28 points.

The OCAA playoff picture has been clear for a while in terms of who would make the four-team showdown. With only six teams in the league, the weak showings from Sault and Boreal left them out of the hunt early.

Fourth-place Sir Sanford Fleming will likely have to face Cambrian in the playoffs, which is good news for the Condors, who have struggled at home against the Cougars. The Condors remain winless at home in 1998.



Longer, stronger and better

## Titanium good for golfers

By Becky Little

Golf enthusiasts are continually searching for new advances in technology to give them an edge to their game.

Titanium remains the biggest winner when it comes to advances in golf technology.

Although titanium clubs have been out for about three years, they are still the most popular choice for those who can afford them.

Nathan DeMeuleneare, from Nevada Bob's in Kitchener, said that titanium clubs can run up to twice the price of a regular stainless steel club with a graphite shaft.

The clubs are popular because titanium makes the club lighter and more weight can be put into the bottom of the club resulting in greater distance.

Titanium balls are also a big

thing this year, but the price is steep at about \$30 a dozen.

One innovation with balls is Top-Flight's new Arrow ball. It has tear drop shaped dimples which are supposed to optimize air flow and result in greater distance.

Elastomer covers on balls are also an improvement. The covers allow for balls with liquid centers so it gives the feel of a professional ball.

The problem with professional balls, according to DeMeuleneare, is that they are softer, and they are more easily damaged.

The Elastomer cover protects the ball from normal wear and tear better than a regular professional ball. Therefore the ball will last longer.

Another note about balls comes from an associated press article by Ron Sirak.

Callaway has filed a lawsuit

against Spalding because Spalding is claiming that their Top-Flight Ball/Club System C is designed to maximize performance when used with the Callaway Big Bertha driver.

Callaway is upset because they said that Spalding was trying to confuse people into believing that Callaway supports the use of the new balls with its drivers.

At Pro Golf in Kitchener, Garth Thibodeau said the biggest thing was the new soft spike golf shoe that has rubber spikes instead of metal.

Junior equipment was also expected to be a big seller.

Thibodeau said "anything with Nike on it" was going to be a big seller this year.

Also for the golf enthusiast there are the Bushnell binoculars for \$400. They are supposed to be accurate within one yard.



### Sticking around

Eric Costa, a construction engineering student, passes time between classes playing pool in Sanctuary, Jan. 23, 1998.

(Photo by Casey Johnson)

### Bus trips going over well with students

## DSA sells out trip to see Jordan and the Bulls

By Greg Bisch

Despite recent complaints from the Doon Student Association about lack of student involvement, the DSA's bus trips tend to be a different story, said Becky Boertien, DSA director of student life, in a recent interview.

"The bus trips have always gone over well," said Boertien. "Most of the things we have done have had very good participation."

Boertien is talking from experience. She has been working for the DSA since June 1991, not as an elected member, but as a paid employee.

"All the years seem to blend into

each other after a while," she said, while trying to remember bus trips of the past.

"When someone brings up a new idea for a bus trip, we try it out."

However, not all trips have always been successful, she said.

Once, a few years ago, the idea came up for a trip to see the musical Beauty and the Beast. Because of the high cost of the tickets, only 10 students signed up

to go.

"Whatever works, we do again," she said.

She added that there are many reasons why the trips appeal to students.

"Seeing as we buy our tickets in bulk, the company selling the

tickets usually have group rates. Therefore, a student pays less for their individual pass," she said. "As well, the DSA subsidizes half of the bus rate."

Last year, she said, the Camilla Scott show was a new idea so they tried it out.

"It went very well, and this year we did the Camilla Scott show twice with two bus loads of students each time. It all comes down to what catches their interest."

"We do a variety of different activities to try to get something for everyone," she said.

"Everybody prefers different things."

This year's trips included a Buffalo Bills football game, Buffalo Sabres hockey game and Blue Mountain skiing.

Planned trips yet to come include a Toronto Raptors game in which the Raptors play the Chicago Bulls on March 22. The tickets went on sale Feb. 22 and sold out within hours.

However, still on sale are tickets for the Toronto Raptors verses the Los Angeles Lakers for March 31.

After a number of requests, the

DSA is considering a Jerry Springer trip next year.

"It is just a matter of reserving the tickets ahead of time," she said. "I encourage people to come up with new ideas and bring them to the DSA."

However, she added, the trip should not require more than a three hour bus ride.

"This year the Toronto Blue Jays are not doing that well. So, we are not planning any trips to see them," said Boertien. "We try to be aware of things people will be interested in."



DSA bus trip

# TORONTO RAPTORS

# Vs. LA Lakers

# Tues. March 31

Tickets \$45 (for each game)  
on sale Mon. Feb. 23

Limited tickets available  
2 tickets per student





# Local teacher hooked on pro bass fishing

By Michael Hilborn

For many people in Canada, spending a few hours out on the water with a fishing rod and a couple of cold beers is the ideal way to pass the time on a warm summer day. For Cambridge's Steve Chiasson, fishing is both a way of life and a serious business.

Chiasson, 36, is one of Canada's most successful bass anglers and one of it's most articulate ambassadors. He devotes most of his time during the summer months pursuing his favorite pastime and makes enough money in the process to qualify him as one of the top winners on the professional bass fishing circuit.

Chiasson has won five major tournaments to date. He is the 1997 Chevy/Mariner Pro Bass Angler of the Year and the winner of the 1997 Lake St. Clair Pro-Am championship.

Chiasson entered his first tournament in 1981 and bought his first bass boat in 1987, just six months after receiving his teaching certificate. "I knew that if I hadn't done it then, I probably would have ended up getting married and would never have had my bass boat until I was 40," he said.

Chiasson hails from Hamilton, Ont., and like most avid anglers, he discovered the joys of fishing at a young age. His father's family is from Nova Scotia and it was there

that he caught his first fish, a brook trout.

Unlike many of his colleagues on the tour, Chiasson is technically an amateur and does not claim business expenses or even compete full-time. He is a Grade 8 teacher at Hespeler public school where he teaches math, phys-ed, history and geography. He also coaches volleyball, wrestling and track and field. In addition, he is a football and basketball referee. With all that going on and two young children at home, perhaps it is not suprising that he can only compete during the summer months. Nevertheless, Chiasson says he doesn't feel that he is at a disadvantage when competing against the full-time professionals. In fact, he says that competition sharpens his skills. "If you want to be one of the best, you have to compete against the best," he said.

For those who have the skill, there is a lot of money to be made on the professional fishing tour. Chiasson's biggest payday came in 1992 when he won the Rice Lake Championship and took home the grand prize, consisting of a GMC 4x4, a trailer and a Ranger boat with a Mariner 150 h.p. engine. The total value of that package was over \$70,000. Chiasson said that event remains the highlight of his career.

In addition to prize money, there are many endorsements and sponsors for the successful angler. With 12 sponsors, Chiasson says that they are essential to the success of the professional tour and to the health of recreational angling in Ontario so he is pleased to participate. "Sponsors want people who can communicate well, look professional and show themselves in a professional manner," he said. Chiasson says that he believes

the professional fishing tour is healthy for the environment because of the emphasis it places on live release. He says that by setting an example for the public, more people will become conscious of the necessity and benefits of conservation.

Chiasson has some advice for all those anglers who would like to improve their results. "Take everything you've learned from books, videos or whatever and go out and apply it," He said. "You have to put in your time on the water."

Chiasson will be at the Sportsman's Show, where he will be representing his major sponsor, Zebco/Quantum/MotorGuide. He will be available to give advice to fishing enthusiasts and anyone who has questions about fishing and equipment.

Chiasson says that the Sportsman's Show is a good place to pick up good deals on the latest rods, reels and lures. The show runs from March 13 to March 21 at the new National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place.



Steve Chiasson, professional bass angler. (Photo by Michael Hilborn)

## Annual sporting showcase has it all

By Matt Harris

The Toronto Sportsman's Show, celebrating its 50th anniversary this spring, opens at the new National Trade Centre at Exhibition Place on March 13.

According to a press release, this year's show has approximately 600 exhibitors who represent manufacturers, retailers and outdoor groups. Billed as Canada's largest outdoor showcase, the show will also include a number of feature exhibits.

A major attraction of the show is the Indoor Gold Whistle Retriever Trials. Entering its 39th year, the trials run daily with the finals taking place Sunday, March 22. From March 16 to 20, hawks, falcons and other such wildlife will be apart of the Birds of Prey show.

Something the kids may be interested in are the Jack Russell Terrier Races, which begin on the final Saturday of the show (March 21).

Another daily attraction is the Subaru Forester Arena Show, which will feature ATV/Dirt Bike professionals demonstrating assorted skills.

For the climbing enthusiasts,

there will be a new 30-foot-high wall available this year.

Fishing will be a large part of the show as always. The Ontario Toyota Dealers' Association sponsors several Pro Fishing seminars on the 16,000-litre simulator pond. The Toronto Star is also sponsoring seminars, with such pros as Italo Labignan and Henry Waszczuk. They will take place at the Toronto Star Casting Pond. There is a \$10,000 scholarship that will be divided among the winners of the Bass Masters Kids Casting Championship, which is sponsored by BPI Mutual.

Other exhibits that will be at the show include archery demonstrations, trout development shows and a 10-metre educational display from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Admission to the show is: \$10 for adults, \$7.50 for seniors and juniors (ages 6-15), \$25 for families (2 adults and juniors), and children under six get in for free. A 10-day pass to the show costs \$25.

Show hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturdays; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sundays.

# WALKSAFE

**A SAFE and FREE Escort Service to Rez, Parking Lots, Bus Stops**

**Monday - Thursday  
6:45 pm to 10:45 pm  
@ Security Office**

**The Service is available to Everyone - Staff, Faculty, full and part time students.**



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE AUBREY HAGAR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Nominations open January 5th, 1998  
close March 9th, 1998

Nominations forms available from the selection committee members.

For details contact a committee member:

Lana Lee Hardacre (ECE x369)  
Stu Hood - (Guelph 824-9390)  
Tony Kattenhorn - (Doon x213)  
Ruth MacIntyre - (Stratford 271-5700)  
Jane McDonald - (Doon x719)  
Alix McGregor (Doon x430)  
Arden Mertz - (Doon x276)  
Mark Salmikivi - (Doon x353)  
Ted Spicer - (Doon x282)  
Brent Walker - (Doon x209)